Citizenship and Immigration Canada
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Recent Immigrants in Metropolitan Areas

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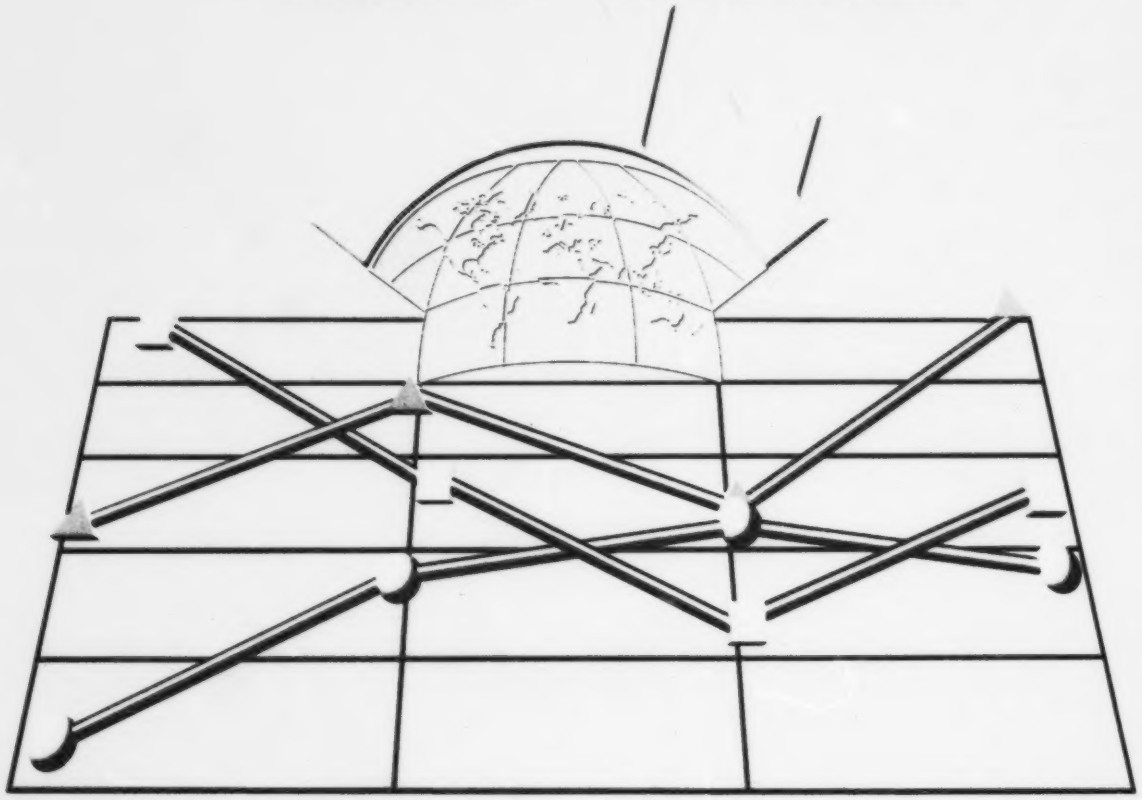
Canada's Recent Immigrants

—

A Comparative Portrait Based on the 1996 Census

January 2001

Research Unit / Unité de recherche



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Produced by Strategic Policy, Planning and Research

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© Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2000
Cat. No. MP22-20/1-2001E
ISBN 0-662-28842-4

Aussi disponible en français sous le titre *Profil comparatif des nouveaux immigrants du Canada -- d'après le recensement de 1996*

103-01069

CANADA'S RECENT IMMIGRANTS

A COMPARATIVE PORTRAIT BASED ON THE 1996 CENSUS

Prepared by
INFORMETRICA LIMITED

For
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

January 2001

The opinions and interpretations expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Citizenship and Immigration Canada

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FOREWORD

This document presents a portrait of recent immigrants – persons who immigrated ("landed") after 1980 - living in Canada at the time of the 1996 census of population. It provides information, derived from the census, on the origin and background of immigrants, on family and household structure, on participation in the economy, on income and housing.

To assist the reader in interpreting the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants, comparisons are made throughout this document with earlier immigrants - those who arrived before 1981 - and with persons born in Canada. As well, recent immigrants have been subdivided into two groups: those who arrived in the 1980s and those who arrived in the first half of the nineties. The last group is variously called "most recent immigrants" or "very recent immigrants". Grouping immigrants by period of landing is helpful when considering the adjustment of new immigrants to Canadian society and the economy, which takes time.

Immigration is a shared responsibility of the federal and provincial governments, particularly in Quebec where since the late 1970s the provincial government has had control over the design and administration of some aspects of immigrant selection and integration. Immigration policy in Canada has various objectives: meeting labour market needs, family reunification and humanitarian goals. Policies have changed over time, and so has the background of new immigrants. As the categories through which immigrants are admitted are not identified in the census, this report does not relate the experience of immigrants to their immigration category. However, immigration policies, along with conditions in countries of origin and in Canada, have an impact on the background and circumstances of recent immigrants as documented in this report.

The report also presents data on earlier immigrants. This is intended not so much as a second portrait, but rather as an indication of the likely future circumstances of recent immigrants. There is no guarantee, of course, that recent immigrants will assume the same place in Canada's society and economy as have earlier generations of immigrants. There have been changes in the characteristics of immigrants over time. The Canadian population, society and economy have evolved as well. This portrait, however, indicates there is also a good deal of continuity in the characteristics of immigrants, and it shows that recent immigrants are making a place for themselves in this country. It shows clearly that the relative economic conditions of recent immigrants improve with time after arrival, for instance.

In addition to this portrait of recent immigrants in all of Canada, portraits have been prepared for recent immigrants in 13 major urban centres where the overwhelming majority of recent immigrants live. Each of the 13 profiles highlights a census metropolitan area (CMA). A CMA consists of a large urban core with a population of at least 100,000 together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. The 13 CMAs include the major immigrant centres Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal, and also Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Quebec City and Halifax.

This portrait of recent immigrants in Canada includes information about the geographic dispersion of recent immigrants within Canada and about the different origins of immigrants in different parts of the country (Section B). It also compares characteristics and circumstances of immigrants among five geographic areas: Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, the ten other urban areas combined, and the rest of Canada (Section G).

These comparative portraits of recent immigrants in Canada are published by Citizenship and Immigration Canada to inform the Canadian public, in particular persons and organisations with an interest in immigrants, including officials of provincial, regional and local governments, and organisations providing services to immigrants.

In this document, text boxes provide information of a technical nature about the topics covered, such as definitions of concepts used and notes to tables and charts. Here are some general points that may assist the reader:

Highlights are presented before the main report. The Highlights section is divided into seven parts like the report itself.

Headings of topics summarise the thrust of the information presented, in telegram style. Thus, a quick impression of the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants can be gleaned from the table of contents. In the style used in the headings, all comparative statements refer to recent immigrants and the Canadian-born. Thus, "Fewer children among recent immigrants" means that children under 15 years of age make up a smaller proportion of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born.

The text describes and comments on the data displayed in figures and tables. The text does not always quote the precise numbers in the tables, but states them in approximate or rounded manner. For instance, "41%" may be described as "two-fifths" or "two out of five". As well, whereas tables and figures display information for two groups - immigrants who landed in the 1980s and those who landed during 1991-1996 - the text often refers to these jointly as "recent immigrants".

Numbers of people are rounded to the nearest 100 or 1000, and as a rule no decimals are shown for percentages. Shares may not add to 100 per cent because of rounding.

Readers should be aware that there may be many reasons behind the differences featured in any display in this document: the background of immigrants, the experience of immigration, immigration policies, etc. One important source of difference is age structure. There are more adults aged 25 to 44 and fewer children among recent immigrants than the Canadian-born, and earlier immigrants on average are considerably older than recent immigrants or the Canadian-born. Age structure is examined in this portrait, and where differences in age are important, information is provided separately for age groups. However, readers are advised that differences in age can be a significant factor even when age is not explicitly addressed.

HIGHLIGHTS

This portrait describes recent immigrants as of 1996. Recent immigrants are persons who immigrated between 1981 and 1996. Recent immigrants who landed during 1991 to 1996 are called very recent or most recent immigrants.

The background and personal attributes of immigrants reflect choices made through immigration policies. Recent immigrants come from all over the world. Four out of ten enter as economic immigrants, and another four out of ten through the family class, while 14 per cent are refugees. Education, family relationships and other characteristics are detailed below.

Labour market behaviour, the jobs of recent immigrants, and their income and housing conditions describe the adjustment of immigrants to the economy. This process clearly takes time. Many immigrants do not immediately access long-term jobs that match their formal education, and the initial years of many new immigrants are marked by relatively low income, large households and crowded housing. As their stay lengthens, however, they more or less catch up to those who were here before.

One of the most striking differences between recent immigrants and persons born in Canada is where they choose to live. Seven out of ten recent immigrants live in the three largest metropolitan areas, compared to one in four Canadian-born. Sixteen per cent reside in 10 cities: Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Quebec City and Halifax.

In the 10 cities, and especially in the rest of Canada, a recent immigrant is more likely than in the three largest metropolitan areas to come from a country outside Asia, to be married to a person born in Canada, and to have a job. The economic adjustment of immigrants is also far less of a challenge outside Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal. These differences probably have much to do with the personal circumstances of immigrants and their reasons for moving to Canada. It seems likely that the general immigrant as a rule settles in one of the large centres, whereas those who come to make a home in Canada with a Canadian-born partner, or to assume a pre-arranged job, have a specific destination more often than not in another part of the country. The process of adjustment differs accordingly.

Immigrants and recent immigrants (Part A)

- Of Canada's 5 million immigrants, 2.1 million landed between 1981 and 1996. The average annual inflow of immigrants increased from just over 100,000 during the first half of the 1980s to 235,000 per year during 1991 to 1995.

- Canada is one of the major immigrant-receiving countries in the world. Immigrants account for 17 per cent of its population, a higher share than of any other OECD country except Australia.

- Four out of five immigrants who landed during the 1980s had become Canadian citizens by 1996.

Who are the recent immigrants (Part B):

- Recent immigrants come from all over the world. One in two recent immigrants were born in a country in Asia, with East Asia – Hong Kong, China, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan - accounting for one quarter (26%) of immigrants who landed in the first half of the 1990s.

- The origins of immigrants have drastically changed over the past few decades. The United Kingdom and Italy used to be the main source countries, accounting for 20 per cent and 11 per cent of immigrants who landed before 1981 that are still residing in Canada in 1996. Only 2 per cent of the most recent immigrants were born in the United Kingdom, and fewer than one per cent in Italy.

- Ontario and British Columbia are home to a larger proportion of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born. In all other provinces the share of recent immigrants is smaller. Ontario's share of immigrants is stable, the shares of Quebec and British Columbia are increasing, and those of other provinces are declining.

- Immigrants are increasingly drawn to Toronto and Vancouver which are home to six out of ten most recent immigrants.

- The origins of recent immigrants in Toronto are very similar to those of recent immigrants in Canada generally. One-half of recent immigrants in Vancouver were born in East Asia, while Africa and the Middle East and the western hemisphere other than the U.S. are common places of birth for recent immigrants in Montreal. Outside the 13 urban areas covered in this series of profiles one finds, proportionally, fewer Asians and more Britons, Europeans including persons from Eastern Europe, and Americans.

- Four out of ten recent immigrants (39%) destined to Canada entered through the family class. The share that entered through the economic class (including principal applicants and their dependants) is just as large (40%). Refugees made up 14 per cent of recent immigrants.

- Recent immigrants are more likely than Canadian-born persons to be of prime working age. Almost one-half of recent immigrants (48%) are 25 to 44 years of age, and 14 per cent are children under 15. Of Canada's Canadian-born population, those at ages from 25 to 44 make up one third (32%), and children one quarter (24%). There are relatively fewer persons of 45 and over among recent immigrants.

- Six out of seven persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 (86%) report being able to conduct a conversation in English, French or both. The proportion declines with age: it is 95 per cent in the 15-24 age group, and less than one-half for seniors.

- For two-thirds of the most recent immigrants (67%) and one half of those who immigrated during the 1980s (52%) the language most often spoken at home is neither English nor French, but a foreign language.

- The level of education of recently immigrated men is higher than that of the Canadian-born, and for women it is similar to that of the Canadian-born. Recent immigrants contribute to the number of physical scientists and engineers. Adult recent immigrants pursue studies at a high rate.

Families and households (Part C)

- Very few recent immigrants, including seniors, live alone. About one out of six living with relatives lives in an extended-family arrangement, more than twice the rate among the Canadian-born.

- Recent immigrant families are more likely than Canadian-born families to include never-married children, and this at a later stage in the life of the parents. Recent immigrant families are also somewhat larger than Canadian-born families.

- One out of six recent immigrant families (16%) consists of a recent immigrant married to or living common-law with a Canadian-born individual with or without children. Recent immigrant – earlier immigrant couples are almost as common (13%).

- Households consisting of recent immigrants with or without other Canadians make up 8 per cent of all households. Households of immigrants who landed during the 1990s account for slightly less than one-half of recent immigrant households and 4 per cent of all households.

- Family households larger than a nuclear family are rather common among recent immigrant households. One in five households of recent immigrants, and only one in twenty households whose adult members are all Canadian-born are of this type. Households of recent immigrants are significantly larger than Canadian-born households.

Participation in the economy (Part D)

- The adjustment of immigrants to the economy takes time. Immigrants who landed during the 1990s have a lower rate of participation in the labour force, a higher unemployment rate, and jobs requiring a lower level of skills than the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. Those who immigrated during the 1980s occupy a middle position.

- The fact that labour market and job skill level statistics of persons who immigrated before the 1980s closely resemble those of the Canadian-born suggests strongly that the large majority of recent immigrants will in time fully adjust to and participate in the economy.

- The pattern of initially low labour force participation and high unemployment followed by convergence to the rates of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants occurs across all age-gender groups and all but the lowest level of education. The disparities between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born are much smaller for men than for women.

- Lack of knowledge of Canada's official languages is a major barrier to labour force participation. However, it accounts for only a small part of the disparity in labour force participation between the most recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, and its significance diminishes over time as immigrants learn English or French.

- Recent immigrants tend to be employed more than the Canadian-born in sales and services and in processing occupations, and in the manufacturing and hospitality and other services sectors. Management and social, administrative (women) and trades and transport occupations (men) account for a lower share of employment of recent immigrants than the Canadian-born, as do construction and transportation and the public sector. The jobs of immigrants require a relatively low level of skill.

Income (Part E)

- On average among persons reporting income for the year 1995, the income of the most recent immigrants is more than one-half that of the Canadian-born, while those who immigrated during the 1980s have slightly more than four-fifths of that level. The proportion of most recent immigrants (with income) reporting employment income is similar to that of the Canadian-born, while the share reporting other private income such as investment and pension income is slightly lower.

- Transfers from government make up a somewhat larger share of the income of recent immigrant households than of Canadian-born households for ages 25 - 64. For households of seniors, the share of household income accounted for by transfers is significantly lower for recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born.

- Over time, the average income of immigrants increases. While one-half of the most recent immigrants have no income or income under $10,000, less than one-quarter of earlier immigrants do. The average level and size distribution of income of recent immigrant households is very similar to that of Canadian-born households.

- Close to four out of ten very recent immigrants (38% of men and 39% of women) experience low income, i.e., they live in families with income of less than one-half of median family income, or, if they do not live in a family, have income of less than one-half of the median income of unattached individuals. This proportion drops significantly as the number of years in Canada increases.

Housing (Part F)

- It is relatively common for recent immigrant households to live in crowded accommodation. One quarter of recent immigrant households (27%) live in crowded conditions – i.e. have one person or more per room - compared to 4 per cent of Canadian-born households and earlier immigrants. Two out of five households consisting only of most recent immigrants (39%) lives in crowded conditions. Crowding is particularly common among larger recent immigrant households.

- It is relatively common for recent immigrant households to spend a large share of income on shelter. Four out of ten (39%) recent immigrant households spend more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter, compared to one in four (24%) Canadian-born households. For households consisting only of persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1994, this share is over one half (53%).

- Home ownership is less common among recent immigrant households than Canadian-born households. However, more than one half of the households of immigrants who landed during the 1980s and of households combining most recent immigrants with other immigrants or Canadian-born persons own their home.

Diversity across Canada (Part G)

- Almost seven out of ten recent immigrants live in Canada's three largest metropolitan areas – Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, compared to one half of earlier immigrants and one quarter of persons born in Canada. Sixteen per cent live in ten other major cities in seven provinces, and 15 per cent live elsewhere in Canada.

- Two in ten residents of Toronto and Vancouver immigrated to Canada between 1981 and 1996. In Montreal, recent immigrants make up 8 per cent of the population, in the 10 cities taken together they account for 7 per cent, and outside the 13 urban centres their share is 2 per cent.

- One-half of immigrants who landed between 1981 and 1995 and chose Vancouver (48%) or Montreal (49%) as their destination entered through the economic class. These shares include principal applicants as well as dependants and are larger than the share for Canada as a whole (40%). The proportion consisting of refugees is largest in the 10 cities (21% compared to 14% for Canada).

- Compared to the Canadian-born, recent immigrants living in Montreal, the 10 cities and the rest of Canada have the highest level of education.

- It is far more common for recent immigrants living outside, rather than inside, the 13 major urban centres to be married to persons born in Canada

- Participation in the labour market and incomes of recent immigrants are highest compared to those of the Canadian-born outside the 13 urban centres, and rates of crowding are lowest.

PART A: IMMIGRANTS AND RECENT IMMIGRANTS

2.1 million immigrants since 1980

There have been two fundamental changes in Canada's immigration policy in the last several decades. The first occurred in 1967, when preferential access for persons from European countries was abolished. The second change was an increase in the average annual number of immigrants from 102,000 during 1981 to 1985 to 235,000 during 1991 to 1995.

In 1996 there were 2.1 million people living in Canada who had immigrated after 1980 from just about every country in the world. These "recent immigrants" make up 43 per cent of Canada's 5 million immigrants and 7.5 per cent of Canada's population of 28.5 million. They are the focus of this report.

In 1981, 15 years earlier, there were 3.9 million immigrants living in the country, making up 15 per cent of the population. Immigrants are now a somewhat larger share of the population, 17 per cent. The inflow of immigrants during 1981-1996 was relatively high compared to the earlier post-war years, but it was not as high as during the years near the beginning of this century when Canada's population was much smaller.

The number of immigrants living in Canada who landed during the five and one-half years 1991 to mid-1996 – 1,039,000 – is almost as high as the number living in Canada who landed during the decade of the 1980s – 1,092,000. This is to a large extent a direct consequence of the increase in the number of people admitted. As well, the number of immigrants living in the country declines over time as a result of death and outmigration, and this has affected those who landed during the 1980s more than those who immigrated during the 1990s.

In this report, recent immigrants are frequently subdivided into two groups by period of immigration: those who landed between 1981 and 1990, and those who landed between 1991 and 1996. The latter are referred to as "very recent immigrants" or "the most recent immigrants".

Canada has a large foreign-born population compared to other countries

Among OECD countries, Canada ranks as one of the major immigrant-receiving countries, along with Australia, the United States and New Zealand. There are five times as many foreign-born persons living in the United States as in Canada, but in that country the foreign-born make up less than ten per cent of the population (9.3%), compared to more than 17 per cent in Canada (17.4%). Canada has five million foreign-born, more than Australia's 4 four million, but in Australia the foreign-born account for more than one-fifth of the population (21.1%).

In Canada, the population share of the foreign-born has gradually increased since 1981. This is also the case in the United States. In Australia, the share has declined recently. This is largely a result of reduced immigration inflows.

Such data as are available indicate that the population share of foreign-born in countries in northern and western Europe has increased since the early 1980s. In a number of these countries the foreign-born population now makes up a significant share of the total population, and as a result these countries, like Canada, are enriched by cultural and linguistic diversity and face the challenge of adjustment of the foreign-born to their society and economy. Among immigrants in European countries are the so-called guest-workers, mainly persons from Mediterranean countries in Europe, Africa and Asia, persons born in former colonies, persons born in other countries of the European Community, and refugees.

Table A.1: Foreign-born population, number and percentage of total population, and average annual immigration levels, selected countries and years

Foreign-born population	1981		1991		1996	
Canada	3,908,000	15.4%	4,343,000	16.1%	4,971,000	17.4%
Australia	3,004,000	20.6%	3,753,000	22.3%	3,908,000	21.1%
United States	14,080,000	6.2%	19,767,000	7.9%	24,600,000	9.3%

Average annual immigration	1986-1990	1991-1996
Canada	164,000	235,000
Australia	123,000	93,000
United States	895,000	1,046,000

Source: Trends in International Migration, 1998 and 1992 reports, Continuous Reporting System on Migration (SOPEMI), OECD. For the United States, the population data are for the year 1980 instead of 1981, and 1990 instead of 1991.

Comparisons with European countries and Japan are not included because they are difficult to make, as for these countries there exists information about the nationality of residents but not, generally, about country of birth. In many countries in northern and western Europe, persons with a foreign nationality make up a significant share of the population, from 3 per cent in the United Kingdom to 19 per cent in Switzerland. Persons from former colonies, although foreign-born, may have the nationality of the European country where they reside and would not be included among the foreign nationals. This, plus the fact that a share of the foreign-born will have assumed the nationality of the host country, suggests that the number of foreign-born is larger than the number of persons with foreign nationality. Additionally, non-permanent residents are included among persons with foreign nationality, but not among the foreign-born immigrant population in Canada.

Large majority of recent immigrants have become Canadian citizens

By 1996, a large majority of Canada's population of immigrants who landed during the 1980s – 80 per cent – had become Canadian citizens. Recent immigrants from most countries are becoming Canadians in high proportions, from 70 per cent to close to 100 per cent. Among the ten top countries of birth of immigrants who landed during the 1980s (See Table B.1), 90 per cent or more of those from Hong Kong, Viet Nam, China and the Philippines had obtained Canadian citizenship by 1996, while between 70 and 90 per cent of those from Poland and Jamaica had done so.

A significant share of immigrants from Western Europe and certain Asian countries, including those born in four of the top ten countries of birth - India, the United Kingdom, Portugal and the United States - are postponing or forgoing Canadian citizenship. The rate of acquisition of Canadian citizenship by persons who immigrated from these countries during the eighties is less than 70 per cent, the lowest (Australia) being 33 per cent. The rate of naturalization of immigrants from the U.S. has been low for some time. Among immigrants from western European countries, the rate of naturalization has dropped significantly from levels above 80 per cent for earlier immigrants.

Immigrants from these countries may want to keep open the option of returning to their country of birth. Depending on policies in countries of birth, people may not be able to retain their original nationality if they become Canadian citizens. As well, children born in Canada while the immigrant parents are still citizens of their country of birth may have certain rights in that country. In today's global economic village there are more and more people who live in more than one country over the course of their working lives. To work in Canada, they may become landed immigrants; but they may not have the intention of becoming Canadian citizens, and may never do so.

The large majority of immigrants, however, clearly continue to opt to become Canadian citizens. Four out of five immigrants who landed during the eighties had done so by June 1996; many more are likely to follow in the years to come.

Citizenship refers to a person's legal citizenship status, as reported in the 1996 census. In Canada, there is a residence requirement of three years before Canadian citizenship can be acquired. As a result, many immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996 were not yet eligible for Canadian citizenship at the time the census was carried out in 1996. For this reason, this group is not considered here. Instead, focus is on persons who immigrated between 1981 and 1990.

In preparing Figure A.1 we did not consider all countries of birth of recent immigrants living in Canada in 1996. A country was considered if it is the place of birth of at least 10,000 immigrants living in Canada.

To increase the comparability with information from earlier censuses, we regrouped together in "Countries of the former USSR", "Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic" and in "Countries of the former Yugoslavia" former member countries of these blocks, which may be listed in Figure A1, and in Tables B.1 and B.6 in the next section. These countries are:

Countries of the former USSR: *Ukraine, Russian Federation, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Balarus, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.*

Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: *Czech Republic and Slovakia.*

Countries of the former Yugoslavia: *Yugoslavia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, and Macedonia.*

Figure A.1: Canadian citizenship by country of birth, Canada, 1996

More than 90 percent of Canada's immigrants who arrived during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens:	Less than 70 percent of Canada's immigrants who arrived during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens:	More than one-third of Canada's immigrants who arrived during the eighties and were born in these countries have **dual citizenship**:
Romania	Ireland	Israel
Tanzania	United Kingdom	Switzerland
Hong Kong	India	France
Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	Chile	Poland
Countries of the former USSR	Malaysia	Lebanon
Ethiopia	Italy	Romania
Cambodia	South Korea	Morocco
Iran	Austria	Egypt
Haiti	Germany	Argentina
Viet Nam	Belgium	Syria
Morocco	Denmark	Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic
Egypt	Portugal	Bangladesh
Laos	Finland	Turkey
Hungary	United States	Hungary
Kenya	Japan	Countries of the former Yugoslavia
People's Republic of China	Netherlands	Ireland
Philippines	Australia	

Percent of immigrants with Canadian Citizenship (including those with dual citizenship)		**Percent of immigrants with dual citizenship**	
Immigrated before 1981:	88%	Immigrated before 1981:	12%
Immigrated 1981-1990:	80%	Immigrated 1981-1990:	19%

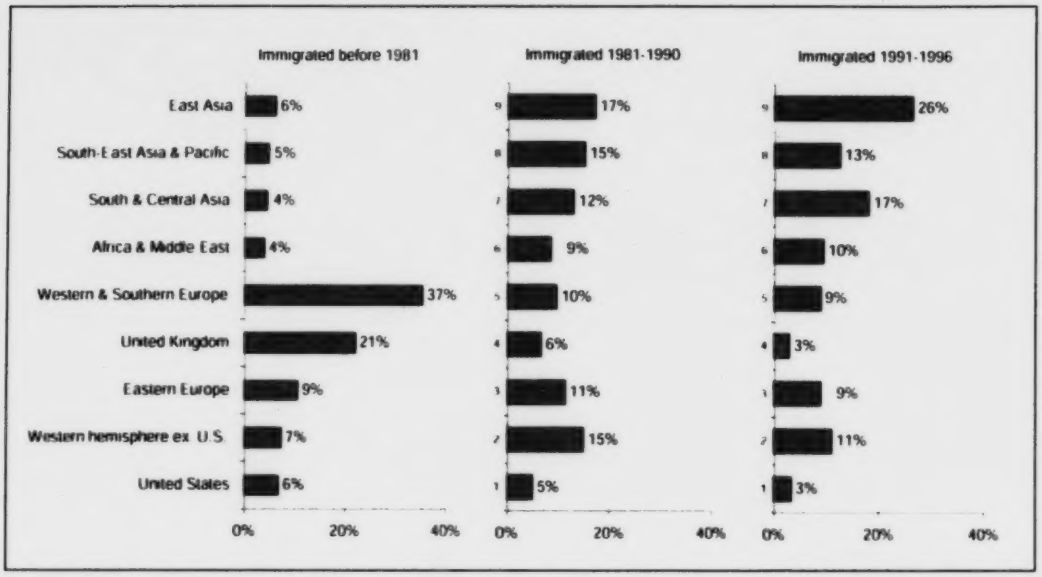
Overall, nearly one out of five immigrants living in Canada (19 %) who arrived during the 1980s had acquired Canadian citizenship while retaining the citizenship of another country. Dual citizenship is more common among recent than earlier immigrants. Among Canada's immigrants who arrived in Canada before 1981, about one in eight (12%) reported dual citizenship in 1996.

PART B: WHO ARE THE RECENT IMMIGRANTS?

The origins of Canada's recent immigrants

One half of recent immigrants come from Asia

Figure B.1: World regions of birth of Canada's immigrants by period of landing, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)



One-half of persons who immigrated to Canada between 1980 and 1996 and who were living in Canada in 1996 were born in Asia. Every region of Asia has contributed significant numbers of immigrants. Immigrants from East Asia – Hong Kong, China, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan – were the most numerous, accounting for over one quarter of immigrants who landed during the first half of the 1990s (26%).

The origins of the pre-1981 immigrant population are representative of Canada's pre-1967 immigration policy which favoured immigrants from Europe. Over one-third of these earlier immigrants (37%) were born in western and southern Europe, and more than one-fifth came from the United Kingdom (21%). Among the most recent immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1996, western and southern Europe and the U.K. together contributed about twelve per cent of immigrants.

The census reports country of birth, which may be different than country of residence prior to immigration. Figure B.1 is based on a selection of 62 places of birth where more than 90 per cent of the immigrant population was born. Places of birth where less than 10,000 immigrants to Canada were born are not reflected in Figure B.1 except for the countries of the former USSR, the countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the countries of the former Yugoslavia which are included part of these groupings. This selection makes comparisons with other censuses easier. The countries have been grouped as follows:

East Asia	Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan
South-East Asia and Pacific	Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Fiji, Laos, Australia
South and Central Asia	India, Sri Lanka, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh
Africa & Middle East	Lebanon, Somalia, Egypt, South Africa, Iraq, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Kenya, Israel, Tanzania, Turkey, Syria
Western and Southern Europe	Portugal, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Greece, Switzerland, Ireland, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, countries of the former Yugoslavia, Finland, Spain
United Kingdom	
Eastern Europe	Poland, countries of the former USSR, Hungary, Romania, countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic
Western hemisphere ex U.S.	Jamaica, Guyana, El Salvador, Trinidad & Tobago, Haiti, Mexico, Guatemala, Chile, Peru, Barbados, Argentina
United States	

The second and third panel in the chart each represent close to one million peoples (about 90% of 1,039,000 persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1996, and of 1,092,000 persons who immigrated during the 1980s). The first panel represents about 2.7 million persons who immigrated before 1981.

Top ten countries change over time

Table B.1: Immigrants' top ten places of birth, by period of immigration, Canada, 1996

	Place of Birth	Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
	Immigrated 1991-1996					
1	Hong Kong	108,900	10%			
2	China	87,900	8%	Total of top		
3	India	71,300	7%	ten countries	550,400	54%
4	Philippines	71,300	7%			
5	Sri Lanka	44,200	4%	All other		
6	Poland	37,000	4%	countries	488,600	46%
7	Countries of Former Yugoslavia	36,500	4%			
8	Taiwan	32,100	3%	Total	1,039,000	100%
9	Viet Nam	32,100	3%			
10	United States	29,000	3%			
	Immigrated 1981-1990					
1	Hong Kong	77,000	7%			
2	Poland	73,400	7%	Total of top		
3	India	68,100	6%	ten countries	578,500	53%
4	Viet Nam	65,500	6%			
5	China	65,400	6%	All other		
6	United Kingdom	63,500	6%	countries	513,900	47%
7	Philippines	56,400	5%			
8	United States	46,400	4%	Total	1,092,400	100%
9	Portugal	33,300	3%			
10	Jamaica	29,600	3%			
	Immigrated before 1981					
1	United Kingdom	566,700	20%			
2	Italy	320,200	11%	Total of top		
3	United States	169,300	6%	ten countries	1,777,000	62%
4	Germany	156,100	5%			
5	Portugal	116,300	4%	All other		
6	Netherlands	114,700	4%	countries	1,062,700	38%
7	India	96,500	3%			
8	Poland	83,000	3%	Total	2,839,700	100%
9	China	77,800	3%			
10	Countries of Former Yugoslavia	76,500	3%			

Canada's immigrants come from the world over, and represent a diversity of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Recent immigrants come from virtually all countries of the world. The top ten countries of birth contributed just over one half of the total both during the 1980s and the first half of the 1990s. Only four countries supplied more than five per cent of the total during 1991-1996. Canada's recent immigrants are to some degree representative of the world community. The two most populous countries in the world, China and India, are the second and third major sources of immigrants arriving since 1980 and living in Canada.

Over the past several decades there has been a considerable change in the source countries of immigrants. In 1996, for example, there were 1,039,000 immigrants who had very recently landed, between 1991 and 1996. The most common country of birth for these immigrants was Hong Kong, accounting for 10 per cent of these new arrivals. Seven of the ten top countries of birth – Hong Kong, China, India, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Viet Nam – are in Asia. These seven countries accounted for more than two fifths (42%) of very recent immigrants. In comparison, these same seven countries accounted for just two per cent of immigrants who landed prior to 1961 (not shown in table B.1).

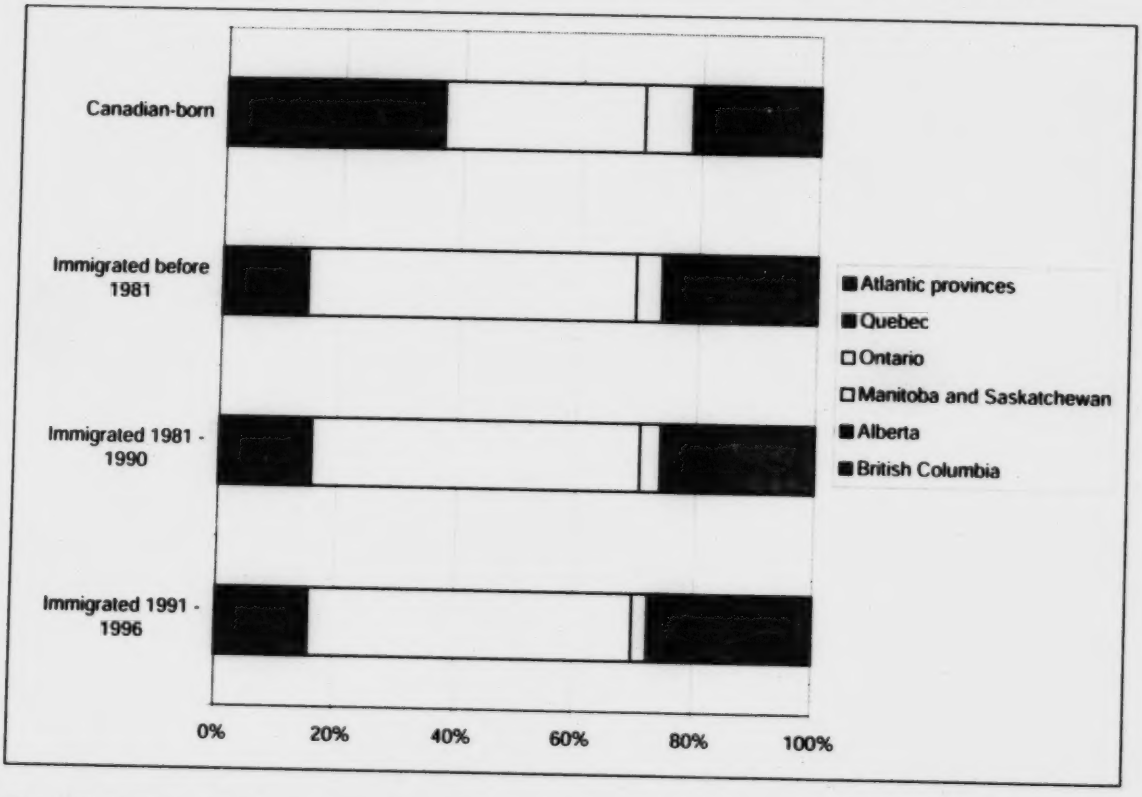
Among Canada's earlier immigrants – those arriving in Canada before 1981 – Italy and the United Kingdom were the most common countries of birth, accounting for 31 per cent of this group. These two countries were even more dominant among immigrants who landed before 1961, accounting for 25 and 15 per cent, respectively (not shown). They were followed by Germany with 10 per cent and Netherlands with 8 per cent. Thus, prior to 1961, four countries in western Europe supplied well over one-half of immigrants. The origins of more recent immigrants are far more dispersed.

In general, the birth origins of the immigrant population vary in relation to period of immigration. European birth origins are predominant among those who immigrated in the 1950s, 60s and to a lesser extent in the 1970s, and Asian birth origins are predominant among those who immigrated in the 1980s and 90s.

Where Canada's recent immigrants live

Provincial settlement pattern stable

Figure B.2: Province or region of residence and period of immigration, Canada, 1996



The distribution of the immigrant population over Canada's major regions has been rather stable over time. Over one half of each of the three successive groups of immigrants lives in Ontario. The shares of Quebec and British Columbia have increased somewhat, while other regions have seen their shares decline.

The settlement preferences of immigrants, while fairly stable over time, are very different from the choices made by persons born in Canada. Three quarters of immigrants, and one half of the Canadian-born live in Ontario and British Columbia, making these the only two provinces that have a larger share of the country's five million immigrants than of the 23.5 million Canadian-born. At the opposite end of the spectrum are the Atlantic provinces where ten per cent of the Canadian-born and only one per cent of recent immigrants live.

Table B.2: Number of immigrants by period of immigration and number of Canadian-born by province or territory, and share of Canadian total, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
Nova Scotia	856,400 3.7%	28,500 1.0%	6,900 0.6%	6,500 0.6%
Other Atlantic provinces	1,370,200 5.9%	26,000 0.9%	6,800 0.6%	4,500 0.4%
Quebec	6,339,200 27%	355,700 13%	157,800 14%	150,900 15%
Ontario	7,844,400 34%	1,562,200 55%	599,300 55%	563,000 54%
Manitoba	960,700 4.1%	87,400 3.1%	29,400 2.7%	19,200 1.8%
Saskatchewan	921,700 3.9%	36,100 1.3%	8,400 0.8%	7,800 0.8%
Alberta	2,253,000 10%	239,000 8%	96,600 9%	69,600 7%
British Columbia	2,756,500 12%	500,700 18%	185,900 17%	216,600 21%
Yukon & NW Territories	88,300 0.4%	4,100 0.1%	1,200 0.1%	900 0.1%
Canada	23,390,300 100%	2,839,700 100%	1,092,400 100%	1,039,000 100%

Concentration in major centres increasing

The destinations of recent immigrants in Canada are rather more concentrated than their places of origin. Seventy per cent of immigrants who arrived after 1980 live in the three largest metropolitan centres, with Toronto accounting for 41 per cent of the total. The attraction of Canada's two top destinations of immigrants is increasing. Vancouver's share of immigrants jumped from 14 per cent in the 1980s to 18 per cent during 1991-1996, while Toronto's share increased from 40 to 42 per cent.

The 30 per cent of recent immigrants who do not reside in the three largest metropolitan areas are living mainly in other urban centres. The ten centres for which recent immigrant profiles have been prepared are the place of residence of about half (53%) of this group, with Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Hamilton accounting for the lion's share. Many of the other recent immigrants live in other urban centres in Ontario, such as Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Windsor and St. Catharines.

The recent immigrant population is far more geographically concentrated than the rest of the population of Canada. Thus, one-half of Canada's population lives in close proximity to recent immigrants with their diverse geographic origins and cultural backgrounds. For these Canadians, contact with recent immigrants is likely to be a regular, even a common occurrence. The other half of the population is much less likely to meet with recent immigrants in their place of residence.

Table B.3: Geographic distribution of population groups, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981 - 1990	Immigrated 1991 - 1996
Victoria	1.0%	1.5%	0.7%	0.6%
Vancouver	**4.9%**	**10.4%**	**13.7%**	**18.3%**
Edmonton	3.0%	3.2%	3.7%	2.6%
Calgary	2.7%	3.3%	4.0%	3.3%
Saskatoon	0.9%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Regina	0.8%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Winnipeg	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	1.5%
Hamilton	2.0%	3.7%	2.1%	1.7%
Toronto	**10.3%**	**31.5%**	**40.0%**	**42.4%**
Ottawa-Hull	3.6%	2.9%	3.7%	3.7%
Montreal	**11.4%**	**11.0%**	**12.8%**	**12.9%**
Quebec City	2.8%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
Halifax	1.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
10 Cities	**20.3%**	**18.6%**	**17.8%**	**15.0%**
Rest of Canada	**53.1%**	**28.5%**	**15.8%**	**11.4%**
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

From nine world regions to five areas in Canada

Different settlement patterns...

The next few pages explore in more detail where immigrants were born and where they have settled in Canada. The choices made by immigrants from various parts of the world as to where to live in Canada are examined first, and the mix of geographic origins of immigrants in various parts of Canada, which results from these choices, are examined next. These are, of course, two sides of the same coin.

This analysis is presented twice. In the first round it is cast in terms of world regions of origin and five geographic areas in Canada. Then the focus shifts to individual countries of birth and the 13 urban centres where most of the recent immigrants live.

Tables B.4, B.5 and B.6 are based on the same data as Figure B.1, as detailed in the text box on page 7. Sixty-two places of birth where more than 90 per cent of the immigrants were born are included. Places of birth where less than 10,000 immigrants to Canada were born are not reflected in the next three tables except for the countries of the former USSR, the countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the countries of the former Yugoslavia. This selection makes comparisons with other censuses easier. For the list of selected places of birth by world region please see the text box on page 7.

Tables B.4, B.5 and B.6 refer to "recent immigrants" born in selected countries of birth. As a result, there are minor differences between the numbers presented in these tables and other numbers pertaining to all recent immigrants, as in table B.3 for instance. Montreal's share of Canada's recent immigrants is given as 12 per cent in Table B.4 and close to 13 per cent in Table B.3.

The settlement pattern of recent immigrants varies greatly by country of birth. The most striking contrast is between immigrants from Western and Southern Europe, the U.K. and the U.S. on the one hand and immigrants from the rest of the world on the other hand. The former, smaller group does not have the strong preference for Canada's largest urban centres demonstrated by the majority of recent immigrants. Recent immigrants from the U.K. and the U.S. more often have opted for the other ten urban centres and the rest of Canada.

East Asians, although they make up a large share of the immigrant population of Vancouver, still choose Toronto in larger numbers. An even stronger preference for Toronto is found among recent immigrants from South Asia, and from South and Central America and the Caribbean (i.e. the Western hemisphere excluding the U.S.).

Montreal is chosen by people from Africa and the Middle East, Western and Southern Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean in large proportions. Toronto, however, draws a larger share of immigrants from these regions of the world than Montreal.

Table B.4: Area of residence of recent immigrants by world region of birth, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada	Total
East Asia	41%	37%	5%	12%	4%	100%
South-East Asia & Pacific	38%	18%	11%	23%	10%	100%
South & Central Asia	56%	16%	9%	11%	8%	100%
Africa & Middle East	38%	6%	27%	18%	10%	100%
Western & Southern Europe	34%	7%	15%	16%	28%	100%
United Kingdom	26%	13%	3%	23%	35%	100%
Eastern Europe	43%	9%	11%	19%	19%	100%
Western Hemisphere excl. U.S.	49%	4%	21%	12%	13%	100%
United States	18%	10%	8%	20%	45%	100%
All recent immigrants	42%	16%	12%	16%	14%	100%

Table B.5: Recent immigrants by world regions of birth, selected locations in Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada	Canada
East Asia	21%	49%	9%	16%	7%	21%
South-East Asia & Pacific	13%	15%	12%	20%	10%	14%
South & Central Asia	20%	14%	11%	11%	9%	15%
Africa & Middle East	8%	3%	20%	11%	7%	9%
Western & Southern Europe	8%	4%	12%	9%	19%	9%
United Kingdom	3%	4%	1%	7%	11%	5%
Eastern Europe	10%	5%	9%	12%	13%	10%
Western Hemisphere excl. U.S.	15%	3%	23%	10%	12%	13%
United States	2%	2%	2%	5%	12%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

....Make for different origins in different parts of Canada

The mix of geographic origins of recent immigrants varies considerably between the three major immigrant centres, the other 10 cities for which profiles of recent immigrants have been prepared, and the rest of Canada. Vancouver and Montreal have a mix of recent immigrants by world area of origin that is very different from the general pattern.

When grouped by nine world areas of origin, Toronto's recent immigrant population appears to have much the same composition as Canada's. Perhaps this is not too surprising, as more than four out of ten (42%) recent immigrants live in Toronto. Toronto is home to a relatively large proportion of recent immigrants from south Asia and from South and Central America and the Caribbean (the western hemisphere excluding the U.S.).

One in two recent immigrants in Vancouver was born in East Asia, mainly in Hong Kong and China. Asia and the Pacific have supplied three quarters of Vancouver's immigrants since 1981.

Montreal's recent immigrant population is rather different from Canada's. Less then one in ten (9%) are from East Asia, two out of ten (20%) are from Africa and the Middle East. One quarter (23%) were born in South and Central America and the Caribbean, making this Montreal's largest source among the nine world regions. Twelve per cent of Montreal's recent immigrants were born in Western and Southern Europe, a larger share than for any of the other four destinations in Canada. These origins reflect the preponderance of immigrants from French and Spanish speaking countries among recent immigrants in Montreal.

The 10 cities have relatively more recent immigrants from South East Asia and the Pacific and from Eastern Europe, as well as from the U.K. and the U.S. By contrast, the proportion of people from East Asia is lower than the national average.

In the rest of Canada, only one-third (33%) of recent immigrants have Asia or Africa as their continent of birth. Two-thirds (67%) of recent immigrants originate form Europe, the United Kingdom, North and South America and the United States.

From 30 countries to 13 urban centres

Different settlement patterns....

This section and the next discuss how recent immigrants from 30 countries, mainly, have distributed themselves over 13 metropolitan centres and the rest of the country. For the 30 largest source countries, Table B.6 presents the number of persons (in thousands of people) living in 13 metropolitan areas by place of birth. The text focuses on patterns and shares rather than numbers of people and covers more than the 30 largest source countries.

The settlement pattern of recent immigrants varies widely by place of birth. Immigrants from some countries exhibit a strong preference for a particular urban centre. For instance, more than two-thirds of recent immigrants from Sri Lanka, Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago and Ghana live in Toronto, as do more than half of those born in Portugal, former USSR, Pakistan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Kenya and Israel. By contrast, one-quarter or less of recent immigrants from the U.K., the U.S., Lebanon, El Salvador, Haiti, Mexico, Cambodia, Fiji, Taiwan, Morocco, France and Germany have settled in Toronto.

Vancouver, home to 16 per cent of recent immigrants, is a location of choice for many immigrants from Asian countries. Roughly one-third of recent immigrants from Hong Kong, China, South Korea and Malaysia live there, and one-quarter of those born in India. A larger number of recent immigrants from these countries have opted for Toronto, however. Almost two-thirds of recent immigrants from Taiwan and Fiji make their home in Vancouver.

Montreal, where 13 per cent of recent immigrants live, is home to more than three-quarters of recent immigrants from Morocco (78%) and Haiti (87%). It is also home to three of every five recent immigrants from France (59%). Between one-third and one-half of all recent immigrants from Lebanon, Cambodia, Chile, Peru and Egypt live in Montreal. It is the major place of residence for recent immigrants from these countries, except for Chileans and Peruvians who have opted for Toronto in the same numbers and Egyptians who have opted for Toronto in a slightly larger proportion. By contrast, Montreal does not have an even share of people from nine of the ten largest source countries for Canada. It is home to 3 to 5 per cent of those from Hong Kong, the U.K., Jamaica and India, and 6 to 10 per cent from China, the Philippines, Poland, the US and Sri Lanka. Of the ten largest source countries, Montreal's share is larger than Canada's only for Vietnam (14%).

Although no urban areas other than the three largest cities boast more than four per cent of recent immigrants, some large concentrations of people from particular countries exist. The largest single concentration is found in Ottawa, home to more than one-quarter of recent immigrants from Somalia, as well as 13 per cent of those born in Lebanon. Edmonton and Calgary each are the residence of between 6 and 12 per cent of recent immigrants born in Vietnam and Fiji, and Winnipeg is home to 8 per cent of recent immigrants born in the Philippines.

Table B.6: Recent immigrants by country of birth and area of residence in Canada, 1996 (thousands of persons)

	All countries	1 Hong Kong	2 China	3 India	4 Philippines	5 Poland	6 Viet Nam	7 United Kingdom	8 United States	9 Sri Lanka	10 Jamaica	Countries 1 to 10
Victoria	14.2	0.8	1.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	2.3	1.8	0.0	0.1	8.7
Vancouver	338.9	68.5	47.6	31.8	23.7	8.3	11.8	11.8	7.7	1.3	0.7	213.2
Edmonton	67.2	5.6	6.0	4.7	6.0	5.6	6.0	3.0	2.2	0.5	1.0	40.6
Calgary	77.2	7.5	6.6	5.2	6.4	4.8	7.5	5.0	3.2	0.3	0.9	47.4
Saskatoon	6.7	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	3.5
Regina	5.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	3.3
Winnipeg	40.8	1.0	2.0	2.5	10.8	3.6	2.0	1.3	1.6	0.3	0.5	25.6
Hamilton	41.2	0.7	1.2	2.0	1.8	4.8	1.9	3.8	1.9	0.2	1.0	19.5
Toronto	878.0	88.4	62.0	64.5	57.9	49.5	36.7	22.9	13.2	52.0	39.8	486.8
Ottawa	71.0	1.9	4.9	2.9	1.9	3.4	3.9	3.3	2.1	1.1	1.7	26.9
Montreal	274.1	5.8	10.3	7.4	7.8	6.7	14.0	2.6	5.9	6.5	2.2	69.3
Quebec City	9.6	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	1.7
Halifax	9.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.1	4.4
Rest of Canada	297.9	4.8	8.9	16.7	9.4	22.2	11.6	31.2	33.6	1.3	2.8	142.4
Canada	2131.4	185.9	153.3	139.4	127.8	110.3	97.6	88.9	75.4	63.8	51.0	1093.3

	11 Former Yugoslavia	12 Lebanon	13 Iran	14 Taiwan	15 Guyana	16 Portugal	17 El Salvador	18 Former USSR	19 South Korea	20 Romania	Countries 11 to 20
Victoria	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.3
Vancouver	5.0	0.8	9.3	27.6	0.3	0.7	3.4	2.6	9.7	2.6	62.0
Edmonton	1.5	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	2.0	1.4	0.6	0.5	9.2
Calgary	1.6	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.6	1.0	1.2	0.8	9.3
Saskatoon	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.2
Regina	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8
Winnipeg	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.0	1.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	6.4
Hamilton	2.7	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.8	1.8	1.2	0.4	0.5	1.0	9.8
Toronto	18.3	7.3	20.4	9.8	36.1	25.5	8.9	18.9	12.4	9.6	167.2
Ottawa	1.5	5.6	2.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	1.7	1.4	0.2	0.9	15.0
Montreal	1.8	21.0	5.5	2.9	1.6	5.4	8.3	5.0	2.0	7.6	61.1
Quebec City	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.8
Halifax	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.0
Rest of Canada	10.1	5.8	2.9	1.0	2.4	6.7	8.2	3.1	3.1	5.8	49.1
Canada	45.4	44.3	43.5	43.4	43.2	42.6	37.7	34.9	30.3	29.9	395.2

	21 Haiti	22 Trinidad & Tobago	23 Pakistan	24 Germany	25 France	26 Mexico	27 Somalia	28 Egypt	29 Cambodia	30 South Africa	Countries 21 to 30	Other countries
Victoria	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.6	2.6
Vancouver	0.0	0.5	2.1	2.5	0.8	1.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	3.3	13.2	50.5
Edmonton	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.4	3.7	13.7
Calgary	0.0	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.5	5.0	15.5
Saskatoon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.6
Regina	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.3
Winnipeg	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	2.6	6.2
Hamilton	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	3.2	8.7
Toronto	0.4	20.7	15.9	3.6	1.5	1.9	8.7	5.9	2.9	6.6	68.1	155.9
Ottawa	1.6	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	4.2	0.7	0.9	0.2	10.2	18.9
Montreal	24.9	1.5	2.8	1.2	12.7	1.8	0.7	5.0	5.3	0.3	56.2	87.5
Quebec City	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	2.7	3.4
Halifax	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.6
Rest of Canada	1.3	2.3	1.5	13.1	4.0	11.3	1.4	1.5	1.8	2.5	40.7	65.7
Canada	28.7	27.7	26.4	25.5	21.5	18.3	16.5	15.1	14.8	14.8	209.3	433.6

...Make for different origins in the 13 cities

What do these choices by recent immigrants imply for the origins of immigrants in each of the 13 urban centres? Since there are many source countries, and no single country has contributed more than 9 per cent of the Canadian total, one would not expect to see very high concentrations by country of birth in any urban centre. However, immigrants from different countries make different choices as to where to live in Canada. Thus, one out of four recent immigrants in Winnipeg was born in the Philippines (26%). Next largest is the share of people from Hong Kong among Vancouver's recent immigrants, which is over one fifth (20%), followed by people from the UK in Victoria (16%), from China in Vancouver (14%), from France in Quebec City (14%), from Poland in Hamilton (12%).

Of the three major destinations, the composition of recent immigrants in Toronto most resembles that of Canada as a whole. Eight of the ten top countries of birth are the same, with Guyana and Portugal ranking in the top ten in Toronto instead of the U.K. and the U.S. Vancouver shares seven of the ten top countries of birth with Canada. In Vancouver, Taiwan, South Korea and Iran are among the largest ten countries of birth, and U.S., Sri Lanka and Jamaica are not.

Montreal shows a very different pattern. Of the top five source countries for Canada, only China is in the top five in Montreal. Of the top ten countries for Canada, only four are in the top ten in Montreal: Viet Nam, China, the Philippines and India. The major source countries for Montreal are (in decreasing order) Haiti, Lebanon, Viet Nam, France, China, El Salvador, Morocco, the Philippines, Romania, and India.

Among the other 10 urban centres, Quebec City stands out as having the most unusual list of major source countries, compared to Canada's. Only three of Canada's top ten countries of birth are found in the top ten for Quebec City: China, Poland and the US. The origins of recent immigrants in Quebec City resemble those of recent immigrants in Montreal rather than those for Canada as a whole.

Large majority immigrated through family and economic class

The number of immigrants landing in Canada has more than doubled from the period 1981-1985 to 1991-1995. More persons were admitted through each of the major categories. The number of economic immigrants more than doubled between the first and second half of the 1980s and became the largest category during the period 1986-1990. By the first half of the 1990s, the family reunification category re-emerged as the largest component of the inflow of immigrants. Most of the increase in "other" immigrants from the 1986-1990 to the 1991-1995 period involved persons landed through the Backlog Clearance program.

According to the census, there are fewer recent immigrants living in Canada in 1996 than the number who landed during the period 1981-1995. This reflects the fact that a number of immigrants have subsequently moved out of the country and some have died.

Table B.7: Recent immigrants by immigration class, Canada, 1981-1995

	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995
Family class	234,000	283,000	464,000
Economic class	184,000	376,000	455,000
Refugees	78,000	140,000	145,000
Other	16,000	22,000	117,000
Total	512,000	821,000	1,181,000

The 1996 Census did not ask immigrants about the immigration categories through which they were admitted to Canada. This information is available only from records at Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and pertains to the time of landing.

Under Canada's immigration policy there are three major categories of immigration. These categories correspond broadly to the economic, family reunification and humanitarian or protection objectives of the Immigration Act. Hence, persons entering the country as immigrants or refugees have different reasons to do so and accordingly are likely to face different challenges and opportunities after landing in Canada.

Immigration is a shared responsibility of the federal and provincial governments, particularly in Quebec where since the late 1970s the provincial government has had control over the design and administration of some aspects of the immigration policy and program for immigrants destined to that province.

Immigrants entering through the *economic* category are persons who have actively sought to settle in Canada and have presumably prepared themselves for the transition. They are selected as individuals and may be accompanied by a spouse and dependants. Only the selected immigrants are assessed against criteria designed to maximise the probability of success in the labour market or in business. Spouses and dependants in this category are not screened against selection criteria but are nevertheless part of the family unit who shared in the decision to move and participated in the preparations for transition. Less than one-half of the economic category are screened against selection criteria.

The *family reunification* category is made up of individuals who are joining family members already established in Canada. These immigrants are not assessed against labour market criteria. They are, however, sponsored by a relative in Canada who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and who has taken the responsibility of providing support for their settlement. Hence, those in the family reunification category are less likely than their counterparts in the economic category to have moved for economic reasons directly related to the labour market or business.

The *refugee* category is made up of Convention refugees and other refugee-like persons who are deemed to require protection or relief. These persons may not have wanted to leave their country of origin and may not have had the opportunity to prepare for moving to Canada. Refugees are expected to take longer to adjust to their new environment and their economic achievements may be modest compared to those of immigrants in the economic category.

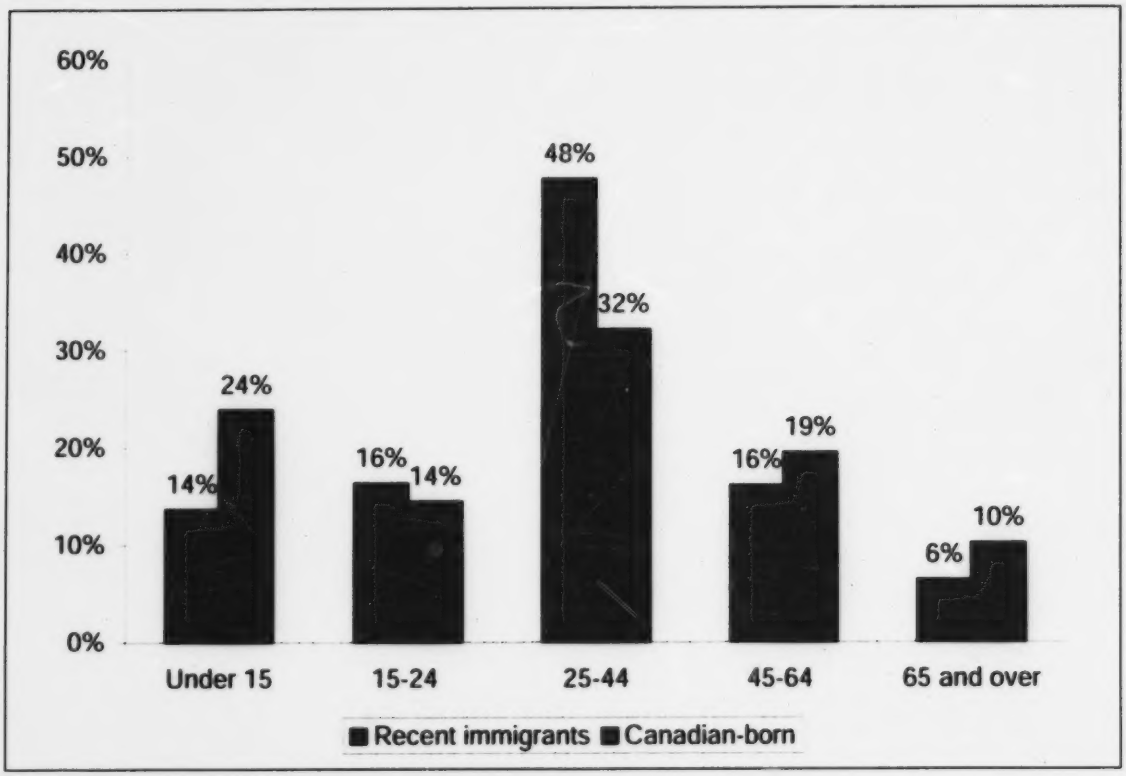
During the period 1981-1995, immigrants were also admitted, in smaller numbers, through special categories or programs established for humanitarian or public policy reasons. These *other* immigrants include, for instance: live-in caregivers in Canada, members of the former retired immigrant class, Post-Determination Refugee Claimants in Canada and persons landed through the Deferred Removal Order Class and the Backlog Clearance program.

The number and characteristics of immigrants by immigration category have been shown to have an impact on the adjustment process and are reflected in the statistics on immigrants presented in this report. In addition, other factors that influence the circumstances of the population of Canada, and in particular metropolitan areas, also have an effect on the conditions of recent and earlier immigrants living in these areas.

This section presents the number of immigrants landed between 1981 and 1995 by category of immigration. These numbers cannot be taken as an accurate description of the population of recent immigrants in Canada as some have, for instance, moved out of the country, some have died, and the probability that these events have occurred may be different by category.

Nearly two-thirds of recent immigrants between ages of 15 and 44

Figure B.3: Age structure of the recent immigrant and Canadian-born population, Canada, 1996



The age distribution of the recent immigrant population (those arriving between 1981 and 1996) is markedly different from that of the Canadian-born population, with two-thirds (64%) aged 15 to 44, and proportionally fewer children under 15 and persons of 45 and over. In 1996, nearly one-half (48%) of recent immigrants living in Canada were between the ages of 25 and 44, compared with one third (32%) of Canadian-born individuals. Children under 15 accounted for just 14 per cent of the recent immigrant population compared with one quarter (24%) of Canadian-born children.

These differences in age structure result from two factors. The first is age at arrival in Canada. Immigrants tend to arrive in Canada during their prime working-age years. This was the case among immigrants who arrived more than 30 years ago, and it is still the case today. It is therefore not surprising that a large share of recent immigrants were within the 25 to 44 age group at the time of the 1996 Census.

The second factor is ageing. Only a small percentage of recent immigrants are children. On average, about 20 per cent of recent immigrants were children under 15 years of age at the time of

their arrival in Canada. But by 1996, many of these children had lived in the country for several years, and had since become youths or young adults. Children born in Canada to immigrant parents are not themselves considered immigrants, but are part of the Canadian-born population. Thus, the smaller proportion of children within the recent immigrant population should not be taken as an indication of lower fertility rates among immigrants.

Earlier immigrants, for the same two reasons, tend to be older than recent immigrants and the population born in the country. Almost three-quarters (72%) of immigrants who arrived prior to 1981 are over 45 years old, compared to three out of ten (29%) Canadian-born. The reader may want to bear this in mind, since many of the characteristics and circumstances described in this portrait vary with age. Differences between groups of immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a reflection of differences in age. Often other factors play a role as well, as will be shown.

Table B.8: Number of women as a proportion of the population, by age group, Canada, 1996

Age in 1996	Recent Immigrants	Canadian-born
0 to 15	49%	49%
15 to 24	50%	49%
25 to 44	53%	50%
45 to 64	52%	51%
65 and over	58%	57%
All ages	52%	51%
Total number of women	1,108,000	11,832,000
Total number of men	1,024,000	11,559,000

The proportion of women in the recent-immigrant population in Canada is similar to that of the Canadian-born population. The number and proportion of women is particularly high among recent immigrants from the Philippines (62 per cent are women; there are 30,100 more women than men; data for individual countries of birth not shown in table) and Jamaica (58 per cent are women; there are 8,100 more women than men). The number of women born in China exceeds that of men by 11,900; their share of the population is 54 per cent. There are 10,500 more women than men who were born in the United States; the proportion of women is 57%. The proportion of women for recent immigrants from Colombia and Haiti is higher than 55 per cent, but the number of immigrants from these countries is small compared to the number born in Philippines, Jamaica, China, the U.S. and other leading countries of birth.

As women on average live longer than men, they make up a large share of persons aged 65 years and over. But the higher proportion of women among recent immigrants from the six countries just mentioned is not related to age, quite the contrary. For instance, almost two-thirds of recent immigrants aged 25 to 44 from the Philippines are women. Many of these have obtained permanent resident status after a period of employment as live-in caregivers.

At the opposite end of the spectrum of gender mix are Iraq, Bangladesh, Iran, Ghana, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Morocco, with the proportion of men ranging from 59 per cent for Iraq to 54 per cent for the last three of these countries. In absolute terms, the difference is largest for recent immigrants born in Iran (5,100 more men than women) and Lebanon (3,400 more men than women).

For all other countries, the share of men is within the range of 45 to 53 per cent, and that of women between 47 and 55 per cent.

Large majority of very recent immigrants speak English or French

Table B.9: Proportion of men and women of 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English, French, or both, Canada, 1996

	English	French	Both English and French	Total
Women				
15 - 24	79%	5%	11%	95%
25 - 44	77%	5%	9%	91%
45 - 64	56%	3%	4%	63%
65 and over	34%	4%	2%	39%
Ages 15 and over	71%	5%	8%	84%
Men				
15 - 24	82%	4%	10%	96%
25 - 44	78%	4%	12%	94%
45 - 64	69%	3%	6%	78%
65 and over	46%	3%	3%	52%
Ages 15 and over	75%	4%	10%	89%

A large majority of recent immigrants report being able to carry on a conversation in at least one of Canada's two official languages. Even among very recent immigrants, who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996, 86 per cent reported the ability to speak an official language. Fourteen per cent of these most recent immigrants – about one in seven individuals – could not speak either official language. Knowledge of official languages is more widespread among those who immigrated in earlier periods: 91 per cent of those arriving between 1981 and 1990, and 95 per cent of those arriving before 1981 indicated the ability to speak an official language.

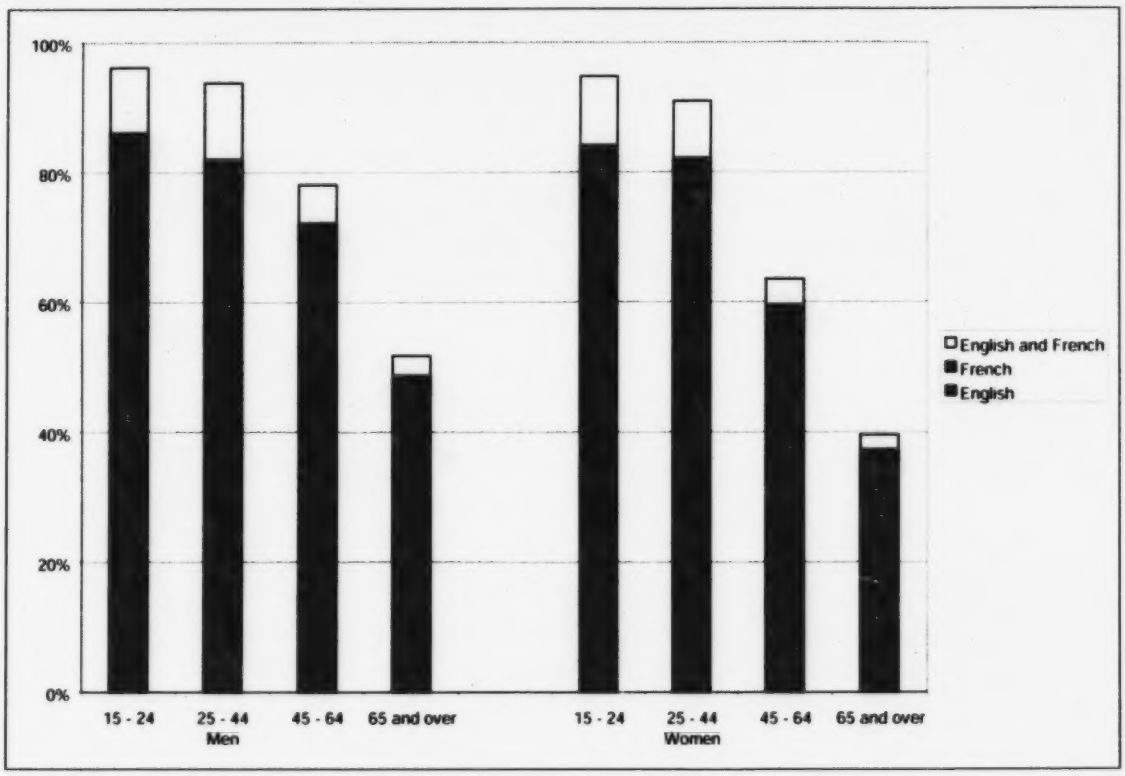
Most recently immigrated women are somewhat less likely than men to have conversational knowledge of English or French. Among women who landed between 1991 and 1996, for example, 16 per cent could speak neither English nor French. The comparable figure among men arriving during this period was 11 per cent.

The proportion of most recent immigrants able to carry on a conversation in English, French or both decreases with age. Among younger immigrants who landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, almost all are able to speak an official language, and there is little difference between men and women in this regard. Among those between the ages of 25 and 44, a large majority - 94% of men and 91% of women - report the ability to speak an official language. Among those aged 45 to 64, however, the percentage that can speak English, French or both falls sharply, and more so for women than men (78% of men and 63% of women). For both men and women, seniors aged 65

and over are least likely to have conversational ability in English, French or both (52% of men and 39% of women).

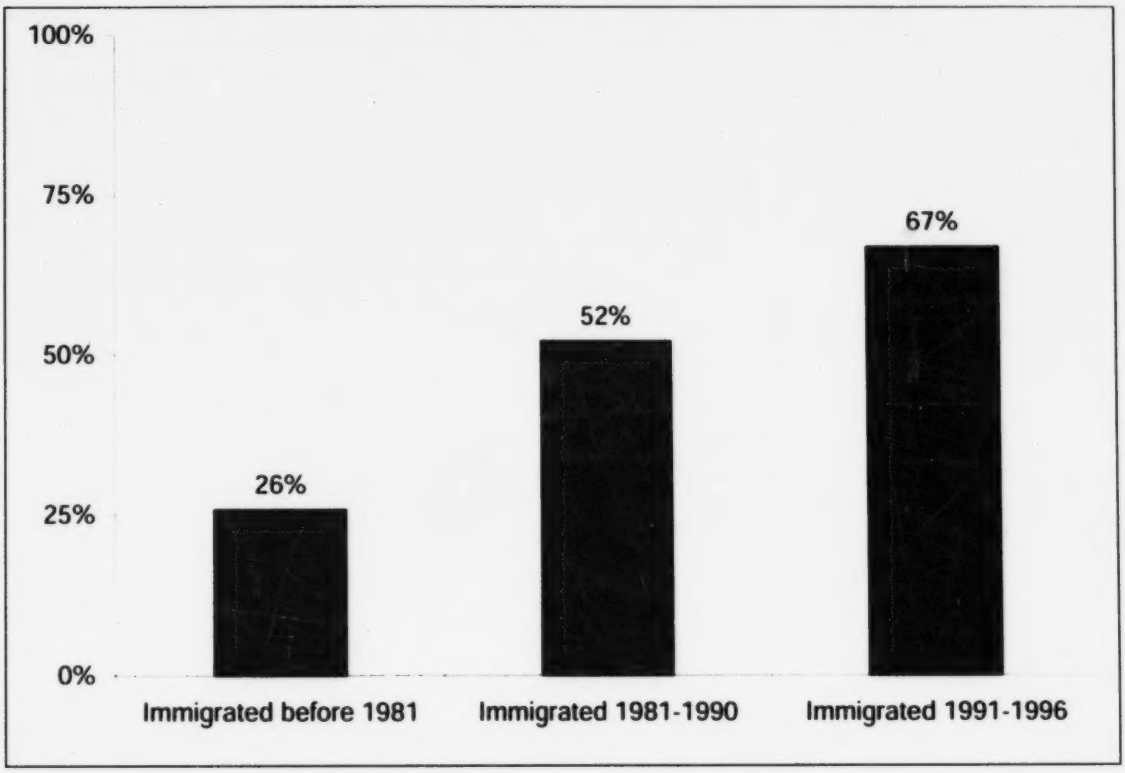
Immigrant women make up the majority of those unable to speak English or French. In Canada, for example, there were a total of 116,900 immigrants of 15 years of age and over who had landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, and who could speak neither official language at the time of the 1996 Census. Women accounted for nearly two-thirds (63%) of this number. A large number of immigrants who are without knowledge of official languages are women aged between 45 and 64. They made up 10 per cent of all immigrants of 15 years of age and over who arrived between 1991 and 1996, but accounted for 25 per cent of those unable to speak English or French.

Figure B.4: Proportion of men and women of 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English, French, or both, Canada, 1996



Majority of recent immigrants speak a foreign language at home

Figure B.5: Use of a foreign language in the home, as a percentage of the number of persons aged 15 and over, Canada, 1996



For the majority of Canada's recent immigrants the language spoken most often at home is one other than English or French. Two-thirds of immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1996 most often speak a foreign language within their homes (67%), and one-half of those who landed during the 1980s (52%).

Of the most recent immigrants, 29 per cent most often speak English at home, and French is used by 4 per cent. Among those who immigrated during the 1980s these shares are 42 and 5 per cent.

The use of English or French in the home is considerably higher among those who immigrated before 1981. Seventy per cent of those who immigrated prior to 1981 indicated that English was the language most frequently spoken at home, and for 4 per cent the most frequently used language was French.

Level of education slightly higher

Highest level of education refers to the education attained at the time of the Census in May 1996. It does not refer to education level upon arrival in Canada. Immigrants may have received additional schooling in Canada after their arrival.

Recently immigrated women are as well educated as their Canadian-born counterparts, and recently immigrated men are better educated. The proportion of men and women holding a university degree is significantly higher among recent immigrants (20% to 24% of men and 16% to 19% of women) than among the Canadian-born (13% of men and 12% of women). Fewer recent immigrants than Canadian-born hold a college or trade diploma (for recent immigrants, 22% to 26% of men and 22% to 25% of women; 27% of Canadian-born men and women).

At the other end of the spectrum, the percentage with less than a grade 9 education is higher among recently immigrated women (14% to 15% compared to 11%), but not for men (9% to 11% compared to 11%).

Table B.10: Highest level of education, persons aged 15 and over, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Number of persons
Women						
Canadian-born	11%	25%	25%	27%	12%	9,111,000
Immigrated before 1981	22%	20%	20%	25%	13%	1,458,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	15%	20%	24%	25%	16%	515,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	14%	20%	24%	22%	19%	451,000
Men						
Canadian-born	11%	26%	22%	27%	13%	8,696,000
Immigrated before 1981	18%	17%	15%	32%	18%	1,382,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	11%	21%	22%	26%	20%	480,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	22%	23%	22%	24%	395,000

Table B.11: Persons with less than high school and persons with more than high school, as a share of the population, by age group, Canada, 1996

	No high school diploma			With post-secondary diploma or degree		
	25-44	45-64	65 and over	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Women						
Canadian-born	21%	40%	65%	52%	38%	19%
Immigrated before 1981	22%	39%	66%	53%	42%	19%
Immigrated 1981-1990	25%	40%	74%	52%	41%	13%
Immigrated 1991-1996	22%	48%	74%	55%	32%	13%
Men						
Canadian-born	25%	38%	64%	52%	44%	25%
Immigrated before 1981	22%	31%	54%	57%	57%	36%
Immigrated 1981-1990	24%	27%	60%	55%	57%	26%
Immigrated 1991-1996	20%	31%	59%	59%	50%	25%

When education levels are compared across generations, it appears that the younger generation has a much higher level of education, whether born in or outside Canada. For instance, four out of five women (79%) and three out of four men (75%) younger than 45 years of age born in Canada have completed high school, compared to one third of seniors. More than one-half of the Canadian-born under 45 years of age (52%) have a post-secondary diploma or degree, compared to 25 per cent of men over 65 and 19 per cent of women. A similar large shift in educational qualifications is observed among immigrants. Thus, the level of education of immigrants differs far more by age than by period of immigration.

Considered by age group, recently immigrated women are as well or less educated than their Canadian counterparts, whereas men generally are better educated. For younger women there is virtually no difference between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, but among women over 45 years of age, recent immigrants have lower educational attainment. As for men, recent immigrants have a lower proportion without a high school diploma in all age groups, and a higher proportion with some post-secondary qualification, except for seniors. Among both men and women, the younger most recent immigrants tend to be better educated than other immigrants and the Canadian-born of the same age.

Recent immigrants add to Canada's pool of scientists and engineers

Major field of study refers to the predominant area of learning or training of a person's highest post-secondary diploma or degree. Ten major areas of study have been grouped in Table B.12 as follows:

(1) Physical sciences, engineering and trades:
- Engineering and applied science technologies and trades
- Engineering and applied sciences
- Mathematics and physical sciences
- Agricultural and biological sciences/technologies

(2) Social sciences, education, and arts
- Social sciences and related fields
- Educational, recreational and counselling services
- Humanities and related fields
- Fine and applied arts

(3) Commerce, management and business administration

(4) Health professions, sciences and technologies

The data pertain only to persons who have a post-secondary - trade or college - certificate or diploma or a university degree.

Almost three out of five men who immigrated after 1980 and have a post-secondary diploma or degree majored in physical sciences, engineering or trades (59%). This is a somewhat larger share than for Canadian-born men (55%). For women the difference is greater. Among women with a post-secondary diploma or degree, one in five recent immigrants have studied some physical science or technology (20%), compared to one in ten Canadian-born women (11%).

By contrast, recent immigrants are represented in smaller proportions than the Canadian-born in the social sciences, education and arts. Two out of five Canadian-born women (42%) have diplomas or degrees in these fields, compared to one-third of recent immigrants (35%). For men, the share of diplomas and degrees in the social fields of studies is one in four for the Canadian-born (25%) and less than one-fifth for recent immigrants (19%).

Three out of ten recent immigrant women studied in the broad area of commerce, management and business administration (29%) for their post-secondary diploma or degree, the same share as for Canadian-born women. The proportion of women that graduated in health professions and sciences is lower for recent immigrants (16%) than the Canadian-born (19%). For men, the shares with diplomas or degrees in these two fields are also similar between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born.

Table B.12: Number of persons by major field of study, as a percentage of all persons with a post-secondary diploma or degree, Canada, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated 1981 - 1996
Women		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	11%	20%
Social sciences, education, and arts	42%	35%
Commerce, management and business administration	29%	29%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	19%	16%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	3,502,500	394,400
Men		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	55%	59%
Social sciences, education, and arts	25%	19%
Commerce, management and business administration	16%	17%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	4%	6%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	3,461,700	401,400

Recent immigrants more likely to attend school

School attendance refers to either part-time or full-time attendance at school, college or university during the eight-month period between September 1995 and May 14, 1996. Attendance is counted only for courses which could be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree.

Immigrants who landed after 1980 are more likely than pre-1981 immigrants and the Canadian-born to be attending school. Among women between 25 and 44 years of age who immigrated during 1991 to 1996, for example, 26 per cent were attending school, compared to 13 per cent of the Canadian-born.

Among young adults, the share attending school is also higher for recent immigrants than for persons born in Canada. Persons aged 15 to 19 years, who have a higher rate of school attendance than those between 20 and 24 years, make up a smaller share of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born (not shown). Thus, the higher rate of school attendance among young recent immigrants is not a result of differences in age structure but reflects different behaviour.

The proportion of adult recent immigrants attending school is highest among those who already have a post-secondary degree or diploma (not shown). Recent immigrants with foreign diplomas or degrees may be attending school full-time or part-time to obtain an equivalent Canadian diploma or degree, or to prepare for tests they need to pass to have their credentials recognised in Canada.

Table B.13: Persons attending school as a percentage of all persons, by age group, Canada, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64
Women			
Canadian-born	66%	13%	4%
Immigrated before 1981	63%	13%	5%
Immigrated 1981-1990	74%	16%	7%
Immigrated 1991-1996	68%	26%	12%
Men			
Canadian-born	63%	10%	3%
Immigrated before 1981	60%	12%	3%
Immigrated 1981-1990	73%	14%	6%
Immigrated 1991-1996	73%	23%	11%

PART C: FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Family and household affiliation of individuals

Nine out of ten recent immigrants live with relatives

Table C.1: Living arrangements, by age, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All Ages (including 0-14)				
Living alone	9%	13%	5%	4%
Living with non-relatives only	4%	2%	3%	4%
Living with relatives	87%	85%	91%	92%
15-24				
Living alone	3%	3%	2%	2%
Living with non-relatives only	7%	7%	4%	4%
Living with relatives	90%	89%	93%	93%
25-44				
Living alone	10%	7%	6%	6%
Living with non-relatives only	6%	4%	4%	6%
Living with relatives	85%	89%	90%	88%
45-64				
Living alone	13%	9%	6%	3%
Living with non-relatives only	3%	2%	2%	2%
Living with relatives	85%	89%	91%	94%
65 and over				
Living alone	31%	26%	13%	6%
Living with non-relatives only	2%	1%	1%	1%
Living with relatives	67%	73%	85%	93%

Very few recent immigrants live alone. Like the Canadian-born population, a large majority of recent immigrants live in households with at least two people, and in most cases, these are people with whom they are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. In fact, recent immigrants are more likely than the Canadian-born population to live with relatives. This is true for all age groups, but is most notable among people aged 65 and over. Among Canadian-born seniors, two-thirds live with relatives (67%), while almost one-third live alone (31%). By comparison, more than nine out of ten very recent immigrants aged 65 and over live with relatives (93%), and only one in sixteen live alone (6%).

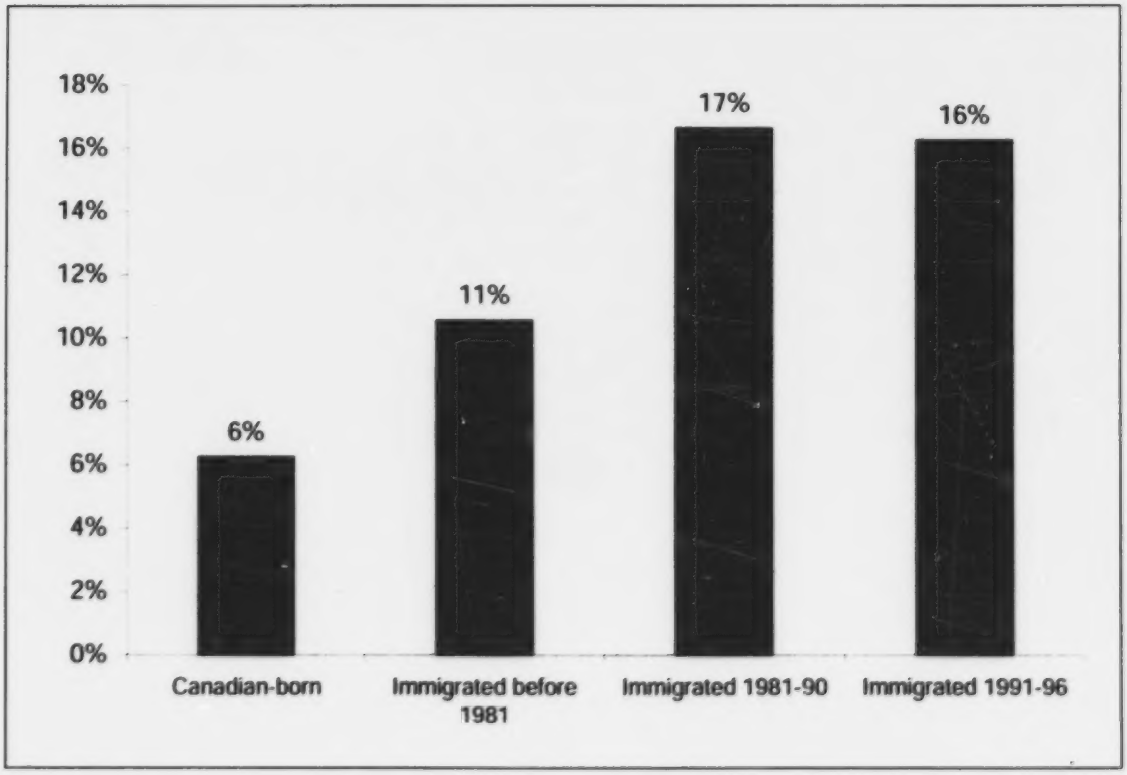
Recent immigrants more likely to live in extended families

Living arrangements can be simple, as in the case of the "nuclear family" (defined as a lone parent living with never-married children, or a husband-wife family with or without never-married children living at home). They can be more complex, and include other relatives such as aunts, uncles, grandparents, and so on. In this section, the latter situation is called an "extended family" arrangement. As an illustration, a couple with two never-married children would be considered a nuclear family. If the children's grandparents were living in the household, all members of the household would be living in an extended or expanded family arrangement.

Whereas Table C.1 includes all persons, Figure C.1 and Table C.2 include only persons who are living with relatives. A small percentage of individuals living with relatives are in "non-family" households. An example might be two adult brothers living together. The percentage of individuals in these situations is not shown in the table and figure in this section. Consequently, the percentages in Table C.2 do not add to 100%.

Recent immigrants are similar to Canadian-born individuals in that most live in nuclear families, with no other relatives other than the immediate members of the nuclear family. But unlike the Canadian-born population, recent immigrants are also fairly likely to live in extended family situations. Of the Canadian-born population living with one or more relatives, only six per cent are part of an extended-family living arrangement. The proportion of recent immigrants in that kind of arrangement is almost three times as large, 16 to 17 per cent.

Figure C.1: Persons living in an extended family as a percentage of the population living with relatives, Canada, 1996



Extended-family living arrangements are most common among older recent immigrants. Over one-third of recent immigrants aged 65 and over live in extended families (34% to 39%), compared with eight per cent of Canadian-born seniors. Older recent immigrants living in extended families are most often related to someone within a nuclear family, and are not members of the nuclear family itself. This suggests that many of these seniors are recently immigrated parents who live with the family of their child who had come to Canada previously.

Table C.2: Persons living in nuclear and extended families as a percentage of the population living with relatives, by age group, Canada, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All ages				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	92%	88%	82%	82%
% in extended families	6%	11%	17%	16%
Under 15				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	94%	n.a.	88%	89%
% in extended families	6%	n.a.	11%	11%
15-24				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	91%	85%	82%	80%
% in extended families	7%	12%	15%	17%
25-44				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	93%	88%	83%	82%
% in extended families	5%	11%	16%	15%
45-64				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	92%	90%	83%	81%
% in extended families	6%	9%	16%	18%
65 and over				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	87%	84%	63%	59%
% in extended families	8%	12%	34%	39%

Families

Seven hundred and fifty thousand recent immigrant families

Defining "Recent immigrant family"
Immigrant status is a characteristic of individuals. But in this section, focus shifts to an examination of the families in which recent immigrants reside. The term "recent immigrant family" refers to either a lone-parent family in which the parent is a recent immigrant, or a husband-wife family in which either (or both) spouses are recent immigrants.

The large majority of recent immigrants are members of recent immigrant families; some live alone or in non-family households. Most recently immigrated never-married children are also members of such families – the children having immigrated with their parents or parent – but some are members of earlier immigrant families (if parents immigrated before 1981 and the children followed later) or Canadian-born families (if the children were adopted, for instance).

Some recent immigrant families came to Canada as married couples, while others formed conjugal unions after arrival. Because the Census only asks people to report marital status at the time of the Census, it is not known if people married before or after coming to Canada. Similarly, it is not possible to determine whether recent immigrants became lone-parents before or after arrival in Canada.

Defining "Canadian-born family"
"Canadian-born families" are families in which the lone parent or both spouses were born in Canada.

Defining 'Age of family"
Age of family is determined by the age of the oldest member, i.e. the age of the lone parent or older of the spouses.

In 1996, there were 2,131,000 persons living in Canada who immigrated between 1981 and 1996. A large majority of these immigrants – 1,816,000 or 85 per cent – were members of a nuclear family. In other words, they were husbands, wives, common-law partners, lone parents, or never-married children. Almost all these recent immigrants lived in 753,700 recent immigrant families, i.e. families in which either or both spouses or the lone parent are recent immigrants. One in ten families in Canada (10%) are recent immigrant families.

Most of the recent immigrant families (87%) consist of married or common-law couples, while 13 per cent are lone-parent families. This is similar to Canadian-born families. Sixteen per cent of Canadian-born families are lone parent families, and 84 per cent are married or common-law couples.

When families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, some small differences between Canadian-born and recent immigrant families appear. The proportion of lone parent families declines with age among the Canadian-born families, whereas among recent immigrant families it increases with age.

Table C.3: Family structure, by age of oldest spouse or lone parent, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All families (including ages 15-24)		
couples with or without children	84%	87%
lone parents	16%	13%
total number	5,638,800	753,700
25-44		
couples with or without children	82%	88%
lone parents	18%	12%
total number	2,719,900	465,200
45-64		
couples with or without children	87%	87%
lone parents	13%	13%
total number	1,937,100	211,300
65 and over		
couples with or without children	89%	84%
lone parents	11%	16%
total number	829,000	64,900

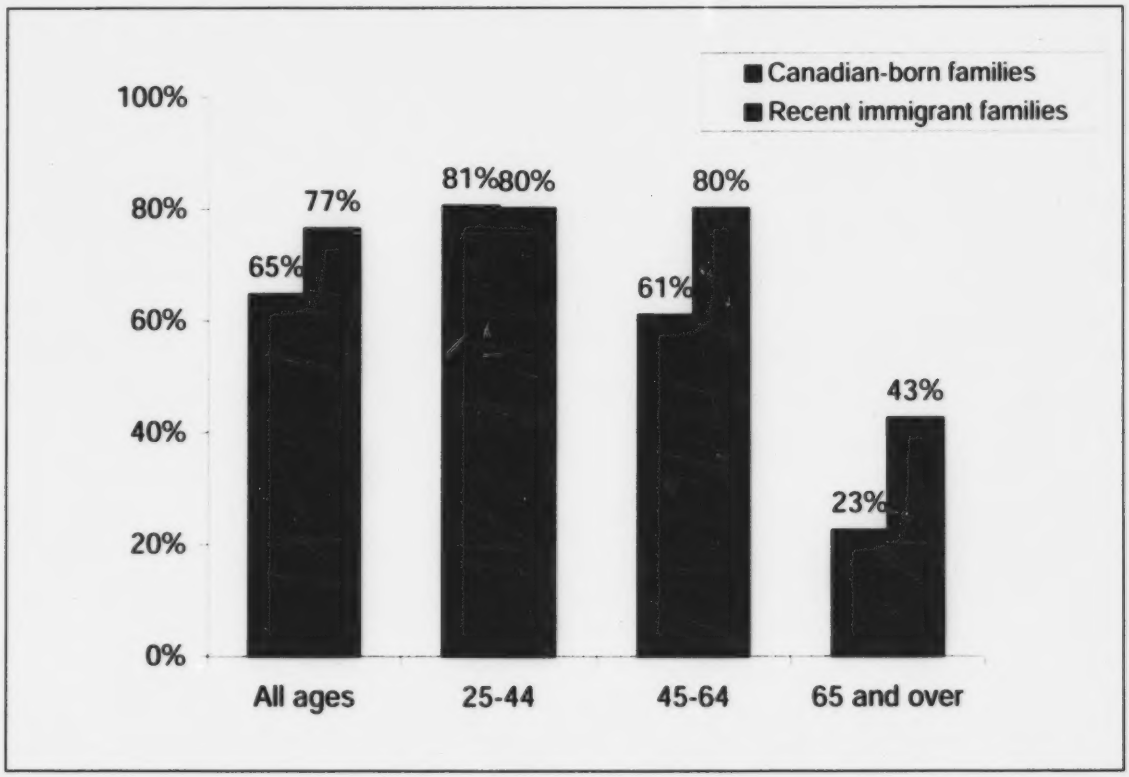
Recent immigrant families more likely to have children in the home

A striking difference between recent immigrant and Canadian-born families is in the proportion of families with never-married children at home. Three out of four recent immigrant families (77%) have at least one never-married child of any age living at home. By comparison, two out of three Canadian-born families (65%) have children at home.

When families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, this difference is seen to occur only among older families. Among young families, 80 per cent of recent immigrant families have children at home, compared to 81 per cent of Canadian-born families. More than two out of five recent immigrant families of seniors (43%) have children in the home, compared to less than one quarter of Canadian-born families (23%).

The higher proportion of older recent immigrant families with children living at home could be due to a number of factors, including a greater likelihood that older children will stay longer in the parental home, as well as possible differences in the timing of childbirth and level of fertility. Some of the children in older immigrant families may be adults living with and possibly supporting one or two ageing parents.

Figure C.2: Families with never-married children living at home, as a percentage of all families, by age of family, Canada, 1996



Older recent immigrant families have more children living at home

Whereas Table C.3 and Figure C.2 give information about all families, Table C.4 describes families with children only. Figure C.2 gives the number of families with children living at home as a percentage of all families, and Table C.4 subdivides families with children by the number of children. Thus, the percentages shown in Table C.4 add to 100, except for small discrepancies due to rounding.

Recent immigrant families with children are somewhat more likely to have more than two children in the home than Canadian-born families with children. More than one out of five recent-immigrant families with children have three or more children (22%), compared to less than one out of five Canadian-born families (18%).

There is little difference in the number of children born to younger recent immigrant and Canadian-born families with children. However, over one quarter of recent immigrant families whose older spouse or lone parent is 45 to 64 years old have more than two children (27%), compared to 14 per cent of Canadian-born families. And among the oldest recent immigrant families, 14 per cent has three or more children living at home, compared to only three per cent of Canadian-born families.

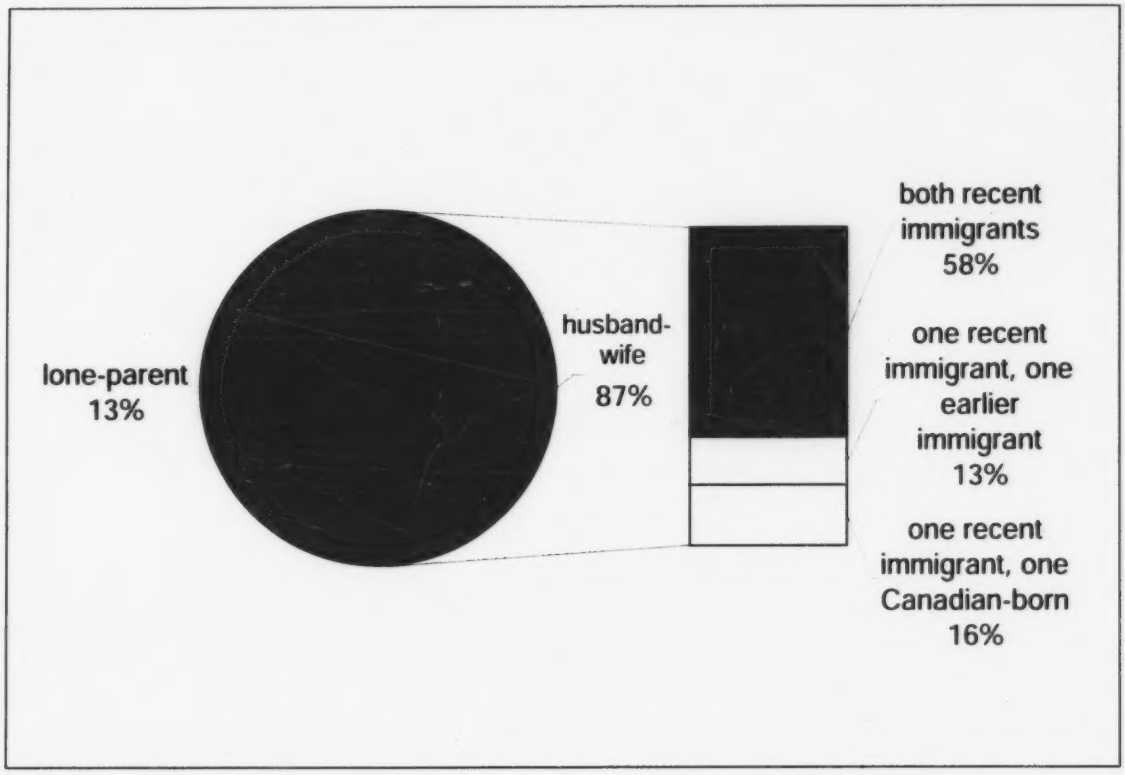
Table C.4: Families with never-married children living at home, by number of children and age of family, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All ages (including ages 15-24)		
One child	42%	37%
Two children	40%	40%
Three or more children	18%	22%
25-44		
One child	33%	36%
Two children	45%	42%
Three or more children	22%	22%
45-64		
One child	50%	33%
Two children	36%	40%
Three or more children	14%	27%
65 and over		
One child	85%	61%
Two children	12%	25%
Three or more children	3%	14%

Most recent immigrants married to other recent immigrants

The majority of recent immigrant families (58%) are comprised of a recently immigrated husband married to, or living common-law with a recently immigrated wife, with or without children. Sixteen per cent of families have a recently immigrated spouse and a Canadian-born spouse. In a smaller number of cases (13%) a recent immigrant is paired with an earlier immigrant.

Figure C.3: Recent immigrant families by type, showing immigrant status of spouses, Canada, 1996



Of the families of immigrants who landed before 1981, two out of five consist of an immigrant paired with a Canadian-born spouse (40%, not shown). This proportion is more than twice as large as that of recent immigrants.

When recent immigrants enter into conjugal unions, they are very likely to do so as a legally married couple. Just six per cent of recent-immigrant couples live common-law, compared with one out of six Canadian-born couples (17%). Even among younger couples, where common-law is the clear preference of the Canadian born (72%), only one third of recent immigrant couples have chosen this option (32%).

The low incidence of common-law relationships is in part a result of immigration laws, which do not recognise common-law relationships. Common-law partners have to be admitted separately as individuals, whereas a marital couple may enter as a unit. Differences in attitudes towards common-law relationships may also play a role.

Table C.5: Couples in common-law relationships as a proportion of all husband-wife couples, by age of older partner, Canada, 1996

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant
All ages	17%	6%
15-24	72%	32%
25-44	24%	7%
45-64	10%	4%
65 and over	3%	1%

Households

Nine hundred thousand recent immigrant households

Defining "Recent immigrant household"
A household is a group of persons sharing living accommodation. In a recent immigrant household, one or more of the members aged 15 years or over is a recent immigrant, having immigrated to Canada between 1981 and 1996. All recent immigrants of 15 years or over are members of recent immigrant households.

Recent immigrant households are subdivided by period of landing in the same way as individuals. A household with one or more persons over 15 years of age who immigrated during 1991-1996 is a 1990s immigrant household. If all persons of 15 and over immigrated during 1991-1996, the household is called a "1990s immigrants only" household. If there are members of 15 and over who belong to other groups, the household is called "1990s immigrants with others". The "others" are immigrants who landed before 1991 or Canadian-born persons or both. A 1980s immigrant household includes at least one person who immigrated during the 1980s, and no persons who immigrated during 1991-1996.

Defining 'Canadian-born household"
A Canadian-born household is a household in which all members aged 15 years or over were born in Canada.

Defining "Earlier immigrant household"
An earlier immigrant household includes one or more persons who immigrated in or before 1980 and does not include any persons who immigrated after 1980.

Together, these three groups include all households, as households consisting entirely of non-permanent residents are not considered here. The recent immigrant family concept is the most encompassing of the three, and the Canadian-born household the narrowest. Many earlier immigrant households (more than half of such households in Canada) include Canadian-born persons, including children born in Canada who have passed the age of 14.

Table C.6: Households by immigrant status of members of 15 years and over, Canada, 1996

	Number of households	Share of all households
Canadian-born households	8,078,000	75%
Earlier immigrant households	1,795,000	17%
Recent immigrant households	905,000	8%
of which:		
1980s immigrants	468,000	*4.3%*
1990s immigrants with others	192,000	*1.8%*
with Canadian-born	*50,000*	*0.5%*
with other immigrants	*128,000*	*1.2%*
with Canadian-born and other immigrants	*15,000*	*0.1%*
1990s immigrants only	245,000	*2.3%*
Total	10,778,000	100%

In 1996, there were nine hundred thousand recent-immigrant households - households in which at least one member of 15 years or older was a recent immigrant. These made up eight per cent of the total number of households in Canada.

Close to one half of recent immigrant households (437,000 or 48%) have at least one member who immigrated during the 1990s. In more than one-half of these households (245,000) all members are very recent immigrants. But it is also quite common (192,000 households) for very recent immigrants to live together with immigrants who landed before 1991, with Canadian-born persons, or with both.

Three out of four households in Canada comprise only Canadian-born persons (75%). The remaining 17 per cent of all households include one or more earlier immigrants but no recent immigrants. More than one half of these earlier immigrant households also include persons born in Canada, often children born after immigration (not shown).

Recent immigrant households more likely to be larger than a nuclear family

The majority of households consist of families. Families may live alone (nuclear family households), with other families (multiple family households), or with non-family persons which may or may not be relatives (expanded-family households). All other households are non-family households consisting of one or more persons who may be related by blood or not.

A recent immigrant household is much more likely than a Canadian-born household to consist of one or more families. More than four out of five recent immigrant households (83%) are family households, compared to 69 per cent of Canadian-born households.

Close to one third of Canadian-born households are non-family households, and most of these consist of a person living alone (27% of households). Among recent immigrant households, persons living alone are relatively rare (11%).

Most households consist of a nuclear family, i.e. a couple with or without children, or a lone parent with one or more children living together. Immigrant households are just as likely to consist of only a nuclear family as Canadian-born households. The proportion of nuclear family households varies with the type of recent immigrant household, and is low for households combining most recent immigrants with others.

A significant proportion of recent immigrant households consists of a nuclear family living with other persons (13%). In most of these expanded-family households the non-family person or persons are related to the family. Expanded-family households are not unknown among Canadian-born, but they occur much less frequently.

Households of recent immigrants are also more likely than Canadian-born households to consist of two or more families (7%). These families may be related to each other, as for example a married couple living with the family of one of their children. Multiple family households are most common among households combining very recent immigrants with other Canadians. On the other hand, households of earlier immigrants and Canadian-born persons are not likely to consist of two or more families. Clearly, many new immigrants live in households that are different from the standard nuclear family.

Table C.7: Household structure, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Family households				Non-family households		Number of households
	All family households	Nuclear families	Expanded families	Multiple families	Single person	Multiple persons	
Canadian-born	69%	64%	4%	1%	27%	5%	8,078,000
Earlier immigrants	76%	68%	6%	2%	20%	4%	1,795,000
Recent immigrants	83%	63%	13%	7%	11%	6%	905,000
1980s immigrants	82%	*67%*	*11%*	*4%*	13%	5%	468,000
1990s immigrants with others	92%	*51%*	*23%*	*18%*	0%	8%	192,000
1990s immigrants only	78%	*66%*	*8%*	*4%*	16%	6%	245,000
All households	71%	64%	5%	1%	24%	5%	10,778,000

Recent immigrant households tend to be large

Table C.8: Size of households, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Number of persons in household			Estimated size
	1 to 3	4 or 5	6 or more	
Canadian-born	75%	22%	2%	2.6
Earlier immigrants	71%	25%	4%	2.8
Recent immigrants	53%	36%	11%	3.6
1980s immigrants	*53%*	*38%*	*9%*	*3.5*
1990s immigrants with others	*47%*	*32%*	*20%*	*4.0*
1990s immigrants only	*57%*	*35%*	*8%*	*3.3*
All households	73%	24%	3%	2.7

Size is estimated assuming an average of 4.5 for households with 4 or 5 members and 7 for households with 6 or more members. For sizes 1 to 3 the actual number of households with each size was used in the calculation.

Recent immigrant households are more likely to be large in size than Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households. Approximately one out of two recent immigrant households (53%) have one to three members, compared to three-quarters of Canadian-born households (75%). Thus, the proportion of households with four or more members is almost twice as large (47%) among recent immigrant households as among Canadian-born households (24%).

Most of the larger recent immigrant households have four or five members. Households where very recent immigrants live together with other Canadians are more likely than other households to be very large. One out of five such households have six or more members. The share of very large households among Canadian-born households is only two per cent.

Table C.9: Proportion of persons spending time on unpaid care of children and elders, Canada, 1996

	Care of children	Care of elders
Women		
Canadian-born	42%	20%
Immigrated before 1981	36%	18%
Immigrated 1981-1990	52%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	50%	13%
Men		
Canadian-born	34%	14%
Immigrated before 1981	32%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	42%	12%
Immigrated 1991-1996	39%	11%

The proportion of recent immigrants of 15 years or over reporting time spent on unpaid care of children is higher than the proportion of Canadian-born persons. On the other hand, the share of recent immigrants spending time on a regular basis to look after elder persons is smaller than the share of Canadian-born persons. In each age group, the share of persons spending time on elder care is smaller among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born (not shown). This is also generally the case for persons living in extended families (not shown).

These numbers reflect differences in family and household structure. Families with children are more numerous among recent immigrants. The incidence of care of elders is lower among recent immigrants, even though extended families are more common. This suggests that recent immigrants have other reasons than care of elders for living in households larger than a nuclear family.

PART D: PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY

Participation in the labour market

Labour force participation lower initially but higher after adjustment period

A person is in the labour force if he or she is employed or actively looking for work. Persons not in the labour force may be attending school, raising children, in retirement, or they may be unable or unwilling to seek employment for other reasons.

The rate of labour force participation varies by age and gender. Thus, differences in labour force participation between immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a result of differences in age-gender composition. As well, immigrants and the Canadian-born may show similar behaviour in some age-gender groups, and different behaviour in other groups. For both these reasons it is of interest to examine labour force participation by age and gender.

Table D.1: Labour force participation rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Canada, 1996

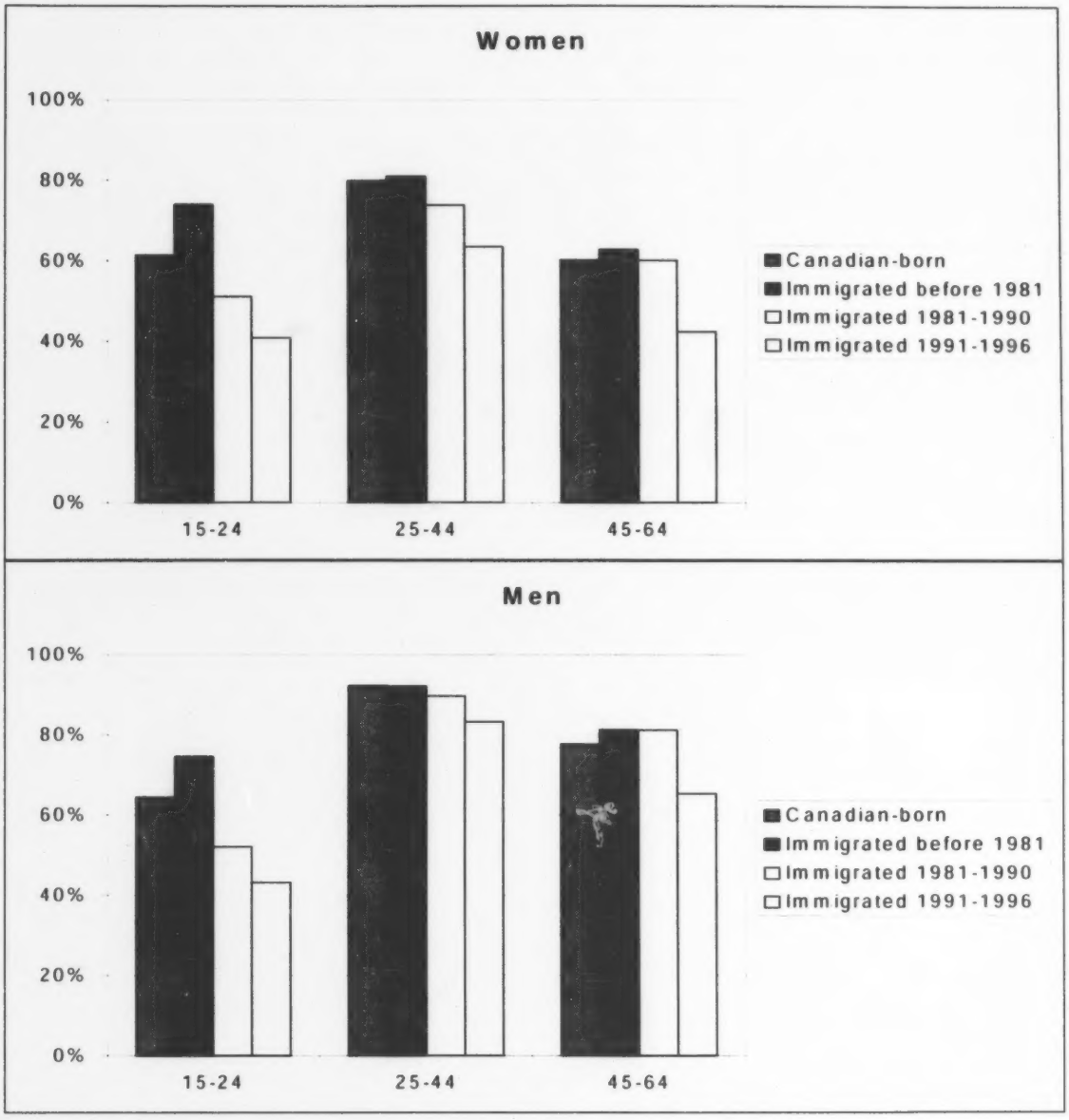
	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Labour Force
Women					
Canadian-born	61%	80%	60%	70%	5,427,100
Immigrated before 1981	74%	81%	63%	70%	724,400
Immigrated 1981-1990	51%	74%	60%	67%	309,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	41%	63%	42%	55%	230,700
Men					
Canadian-born	64%	92%	78%	82%	6,287,800
Immigrated before 1981	75%	92%	81%	85%	876,400
Immigrated 1981-1990	52%	90%	81%	80%	357,700
Immigrated 1991-1996	43%	83%	65%	71%	264,800

In the first few years after landing, immigrants participate in the labour market at lower rates than the Canadian-born, but over time the rates become quite similar. This pattern is evident in all three age groups, for both men and women.

The differences in labour force participation rates between the three groups of immigrants and the Canadian-born are smaller for men than for women. Men aged 45 to 64 who immigrated between 1981 and 1990 participate at a higher rate (81%) than the Canadian-born (78%), evidence of rapid adjustment.

The labour force participation rates of immigrants do not just converge to those of the Canadian-born over time, they eventually exceed those rates. This can be observed in every age group except men aged 25 to 44, where the rates of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants are the same (92%).

Figure D.1: Labour force participation rates by age and gender, Canada, 1996



Pattern of adjustment similar for almost all levels of education

Just as labour force participation varies by age and gender, so it also varies by level of education. To better understand the reasons for differences between immigrants and the Canadian-born, participation rates are shown for different levels of education. Level of education is as reported by respondents, and pertains to the time of the census.

Table D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Canada 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	33%	53%	74%	82%	88%	70%
Immigrated before 1981	43%	60%	72%	78%	85%	70%
Immigrated 1981-1990	48%	51%	66%	78%	81%	67%
Immigrated 1991-1996	37%	40%	52%	67%	69%	55%
Men						
Canadian-born	60%	70%	86%	91%	93%	82%
Immigrated before 1981	69%	80%	86%	88%	91%	85%
Immigrated 1981-1990	75%	64%	78%	90%	90%	80%
Immigrated 1991-1996	64%	52%	68%	82%	82%	71%

Generally speaking, if persons are ranked by level of education, the higher the level of education the greater the proportion of people who participate in the labour market. This observation holds for the Canadian-born as well as for all three groups of immigrants, with only one exception. Men who immigrated after 1980 and who at the time of the 1996 census had only attended elementary school had a higher participation rate than those with some high school.

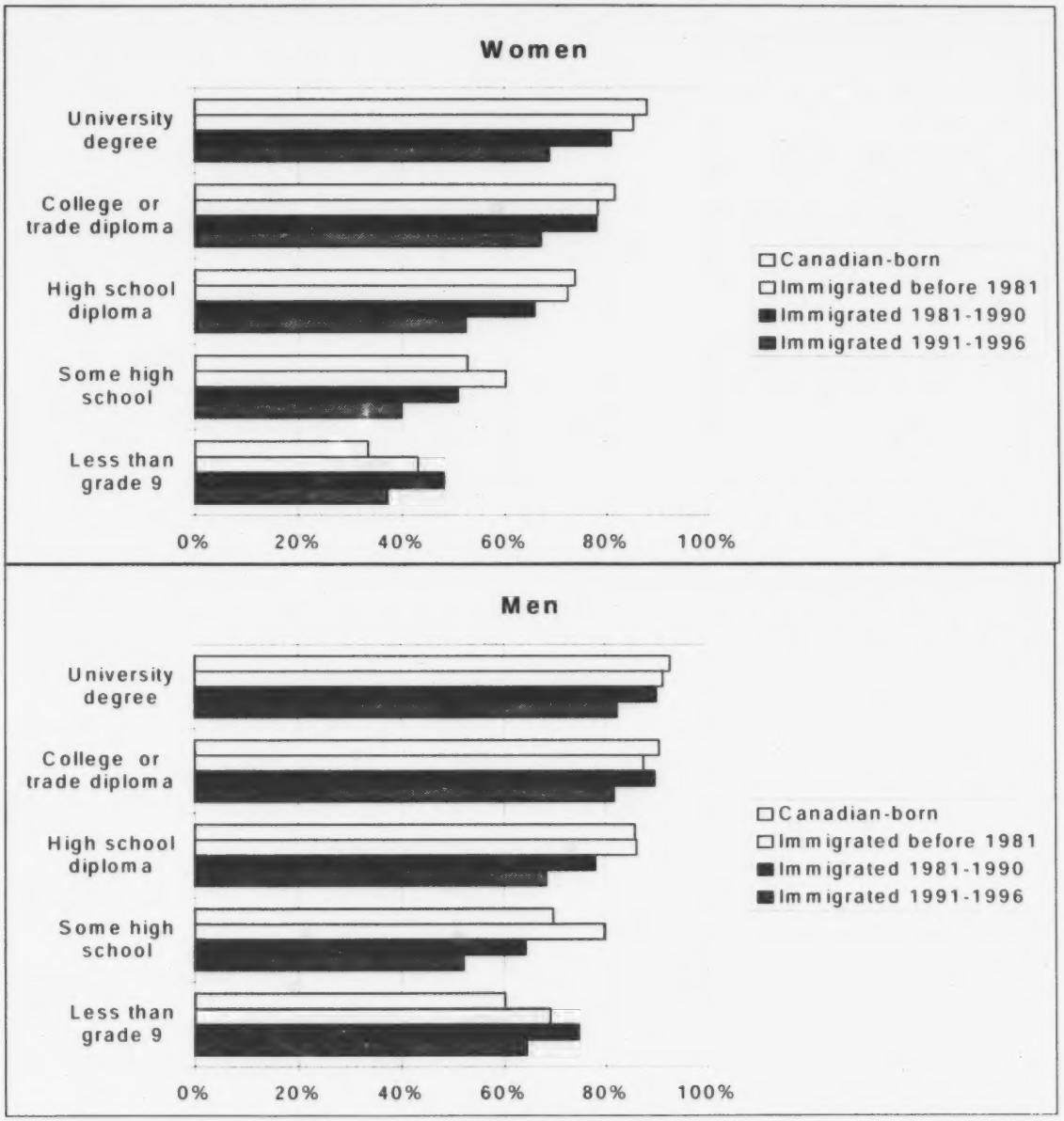
Among persons with a high school diploma or a post-secondary diploma or degree, recent immigrants participate in the labour market at a lower rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. For instance, women who immigrated in the 1980s and have a trade or college diploma have a participation rate of 78 per cent, whereas their Canadian-born counterparts have a rate of 82 per cent. This difference of 4 percentage points in the labour force participation rates of women is larger than that for men with the same educational qualifications. A similar pattern of gender differences is found at the university level, but not at lower levels of education.

Over time, the behaviour of immigrants with a high school diploma or post-secondary qualification converges to, but does not quite reach that of Canadian-born persons. Immigrants who have been in the country for more than five years participate in the labour market in higher proportions than those who landed more recently.

For recent and earlier immigrants with only elementary education a different pattern is evident. They participate in the labour market at a higher rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. Earlier immigrants without a high school diploma participate at a significantly higher rate than their Canadian-born counterparts.

The relatively high labour force participation of immigrants with limited education is a major reason why participation rates of earlier immigrants are higher than those of the Canadian-born in almost all age groups (as shown in table D.1 above).

Figure D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Canada 1996



Knowledge of official languages important for labour force participation

Table D.3: Labour force participation and knowledge of official languages, persons 15 to 64 years old, Canada, 1996

	Population share without knowledge of either French or English	Labour force participation rate		
		No knowledge of either French or English	Knowledge of French, English or both	Total, ages 15 - 64
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	70%	70%
Immigrated before 1981	3%	35%	71%	70%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	7%	44%	68%	67%
Immigrated 1991 - 1996	13%	35%	58%	55%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	82%	82%
Immigrated before 1981	2%	58%	85%	85%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	5%	70%	81%	80%
Immigrated 1991 - 1996	9%	58%	72%	71%

Most immigrants report being able to converse in either English or French when they immigrate to Canada. At the time of the 1996 census, the large majority of both men and women who immigrated during the 1990s and settled in Canada speak English or French. Those that speak neither language are not nearly as active in the labour market as those who do. It is hardly surprising that knowledge of official languages is strongly associated with labour market behaviour. The effect – measured by the difference between the second and third column in the table - is stronger for women than for men.

Labour force participation rates of immigrants are lower than they would be if all immigrants had command of English or French – as measured by the difference between the third and fourth column in the table. For the most recent immigrants, lack of knowledge of official languages reduces the labour force participation rate by 3 per cent in the case of women (55% compared to 58%) and by 1 per cent for men (71% compared to 72%). Thus, lack of knowledge of English and French accounts for a small but definite part of the difference between the most recent immigrants and the Canadian-born.

Most immigrants who do not speak English at the time of immigration learn the language after arrival. Thus, lack of knowledge of English becomes less important as a barrier to labour force entry with prolonged stay in Canada.

Unemployment not uncommon during initial years

Like labour force participation, unemployment varies by age and gender, and also by level of education. Knowledge of English also has some effect. In this section, each of these aspects is examined in turn as the unemployment experience of immigrants and persons born in Canada is compared. Readers are reminded that differences in unemployment between groups may be related to a number of factors, and not only the one shown in a particular table.

Table D.4: Unemployment rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Canada, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Unemployed
Women					
Canadian-born	17%	8%	7%	10%	519,500
Immigrated before 1981	16%	8%	7%	8%	55,300
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	13%	13%	14%	42,400
Immigrated 1991-1996	26%	20%	23%	21%	48,700
Men					
Canadian-born	18%	9%	8%	10%	653,400
Immigrated before 1981	18%	7%	6%	7%	62,500
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	10%	10%	11%	40,600
Immigrated 1991-1996	21%	15%	18%	16%	43,600

Immigrants are more likely to experience unemployment during their initial years in Canada than those who have been in the country for a longer period of time. For instance, males who landed in the 1990s experience unemployment rates from 15 to 21 per cent, depending on their age group, and females experience rates of 20 to 26 per cent. Unemployment is significantly lower among persons who immigrated during the 1980s.

This suggests that one or more spells of unemployment may be a fairly common experience for immigrants during their initial years in Canada. This is particularly so during the first five years, when immigrants may not yet have secured steady jobs.

By the end of the adjustment process, immigrants experience the same, or slightly less unemployment, as the Canadian-born of the same sex and age.

Many factors may contribute to differences in labour force participation, and readers should not attribute differences only to the factor examined in any of the tables or charts. For instance, if many immigrants who do not speak English also have a below-average education, low labour force participation may be a result of low education rather than lack of English. To give another example, if lack of knowledge of English is highly associated with relatively high age (as may be the case with persons who immigrate after age 50 from non-English-speaking countries), then it may have only a small effect on labour force participation, because a number of these persons would not enter the labour market even if they did speak English. However, Table D.3 conveys an impression that is supported by further analysis. When education, age and gender, and knowledge of English and or French were considered jointly, it was found that lack of knowledge of English and or French has a clear, separate effect on participation rates that is close to the effect shown in the table.

Table D.5: Unemployment rates by level of education, ages 15 to 64, Canada, 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	19%	14%	10%	8%	5%	10%
Immigrated before 1981	12%	10%	8%	7%	5%	8%
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	18%	15%	12%	9%	14%
Immigrated 1991-1996	30%	24%	23%	18%	18%	21%
Men						
Canadian-born	20%	15%	11%	8%	4%	10%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	10%	9%	7%	4%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	15%	15%	14%	9%	8%	11%
Immigrated 1991-1996	21%	19%	17%	15%	15%	16%

The adjustment pattern just examined occurs at all levels of education. For instance, men who immigrated during the 1990s and who have a high school diploma have an unemployment rate of 17 per cent. The rate drops to 14 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s.

Immigrant women experience more unemployment than men during their first five years in Canada, irrespective of their education level, and also during the next ten years. The gap between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born is also larger for women than for men, again for any level of education.

After the adjustment process immigrants experience less unemployment than the Canadian-born with the same level of education, except for university graduates who have the same low unemployment rates as the Canadian-born.

The adjustment process appears to be shorter in the case of immigrants with only elementary schooling than for those with more education. This suggests that it takes time for better educated immigrants to find steady employment at a level that corresponds to their level of education. After the adjustment period, however, more educated immigrants experience less unemployment than the less educated.

Table D.6: Unemployment and knowledge of official languages, persons 15 to 64 years old, Canada, 1996

	Population Share without knowledge of either French or English	Unemployment rate		
		No knowledge of either French or	Knowledge of French, English or both	Total, ages 15 - 64
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	10%	10%
Immigrated before 1981	3%	14%	8%	8%
Immigrated 1981-1990	7%	20%	13%	14%
Immigrated 1991-1996	13%	29%	20%	21%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	10%	10%
Immigrated before 1981	2%	15%	7%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	15%	11%	11%
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	19%	16%	16%

Recent immigrants who do not speak English or French are more likely to be unemployed than those that do. The difference in unemployment rates between those who speak English or French and those who do not varies from 3 to 9 percentage points, depending on gender and period of immigration. It occurs among earlier immigrants as well as recent immigrants. These are not large differences compared to the effect of language on participation rates examined above. Knowledge of official languages is more important to the decision to seek employment than to the risk of losing it.

Thus, lack of knowledge of official languages is not a major reason for higher unemployment among recent immigrants. This is so because the proportion of immigrants who speak neither language is small, and their unemployment rate is higher by only a moderate margin.

Share of men and women with jobs increases with length of stay

To summarise this section on labour market experience of recent immigrants, Table D.7 shows the percentage of men or women of a certain age group who are employed (the employment ratio). The employment ratio is the product of the labour force participation rate and the complement of the unemployment rate, and therefore reflects both indicators.

Table D.7: Employment ratio of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Canada, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Employed
Women					
Canadian-born	51%	73%	56%	63%	4,907,600
Immigrated before 1981	62%	74%	58%	64%	669,100
Immigrated 1981-1990	41%	64%	52%	58%	267,200
Immigrated 1991-1996	30%	51%	32%	43%	182,000
Men					
Canadian-born	53%	84%	72%	73%	5,634,300
Immigrated before 1981	61%	86%	76%	79%	814,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	41%	81%	73%	71%	317,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	34%	71%	53%	59%	221,200

Somewhat more than two out of five women of working age who immigrated during 1991 to 1996 are employed (43%), and three out of five men (59%). For immigrants who landed during the 1980s the proportions are 58 per cent for women and 71 per cent for men. As shown in the previous pages, these differences in employment ratios primarily reflect differences in labour force participation rates.

Earlier immigrants have the highest employment ratios in every age-gender group. With respect to employment, there appears to be a complete adjustment of immigrants.

Part-time jobs more common for very recent immigrant men aged 25 to 64

Part-time employment is defined as having worked less than 30 hours per week during most of the weeks worked in the year 1995. Because the information relates to the entire year 1995, only persons who landed before 1995 are included among the most recent immigrants.

The share of part-time employment for the 15-64 age group is the average of the shares for the three age groups, weighted by the relative size of each age group. Because the age-specific rates vary so much, differences in age structure can have a major effect on the overall rate. The fact that immigrants who arrived before the 80s are concentrated in the higher age groups gives them a low share of part-time employment compared to other groups. When the comparison is made for each age group, it becomes clear that these earlier immigrants are not very different from other groups with respect to the rate of part-time employment.

Table D.8: Part-time employment as a share of employment, by age and gender, Canada, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	15-64
Women				
Canadian-born	60%	27%	29%	34%
Immigrated before 1981	55%	24%	25%	26%
Immigrated 1981-1990	62%	24%	24%	29%
Immigrated 1991-1994	52%	26%	29%	31%
Men				
Canadian-born	48%	7%	8%	15%
Immigrated before 1981	44%	7%	7%	9%
Immigrated 1981-1990	52%	9%	9%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1994	47%	12%	15%	18%

The proportion of employed persons who work part-time varies considerably by age and gender. From 44 to 62 per cent of employed young adults work part-time, mainly because many also attend school. About one quarter of employed women aged 25 to 64 work part-time, while for men, not including the most recent immigrants, this share is around 8 per cent.

Part-time employment is a way for some new immigrants to enter the work force, more so for men. While part-time employment is less common for men than for women, the proportion of employed very recently immigrated men who have part-time jobs is large compared to that of other men. As they stay in the country longer, the share of employed immigrants having part-time jobs declines to a level somewhat below that of the Canadian-born.

Many employed recent immigrants in sales and services, processing occupations

Occupations are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification, as follows:

(1) Sales and services	Sales and service occupations
(2) Processing	Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities
	Occupations unique to primary industry
(3) Administrative	Business, finance and administrative occupations
(4) Management and social	Occupations in social science, education, government services and religion
	Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport
	Management occupations
(5) Trades, transport	Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations
(6) Health, science	Health occupations
	Natural and applied sciences and related occupations

In examining the jobs of immigrants, the focus is on persons 25 to 64 years old. Younger people are not considered since many of them are still in school, and their jobs tend to be short-term and part-time and are less likely to be related to their education and career choices than the jobs of older adults.

Table D.9: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Sales and services	Processing	Adminis-trative	Management and social	Trades, transport	Health, science	Total employed
Women							
Canadian-born	26%	6%	34%	21%	2%	12%	4,058,700
Immigrated before 1981	26%	9%	31%	20%	2%	12%	643,300
Immigrated 1981-1990	30%	15%	26%	14%	2%	13%	232,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	40%	15%	20%	13%	2%	10%	154,800
Men							
Canadian-born	17%	16%	10%	21%	26%	10%	4,727,400
Immigrated before 1981	17%	13%	10%	24%	23%	13%	787,500
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	17%	10%	18%	21%	14%	279,800
Immigrated 1991-1996	25%	18%	10%	17%	16%	13%	192,500

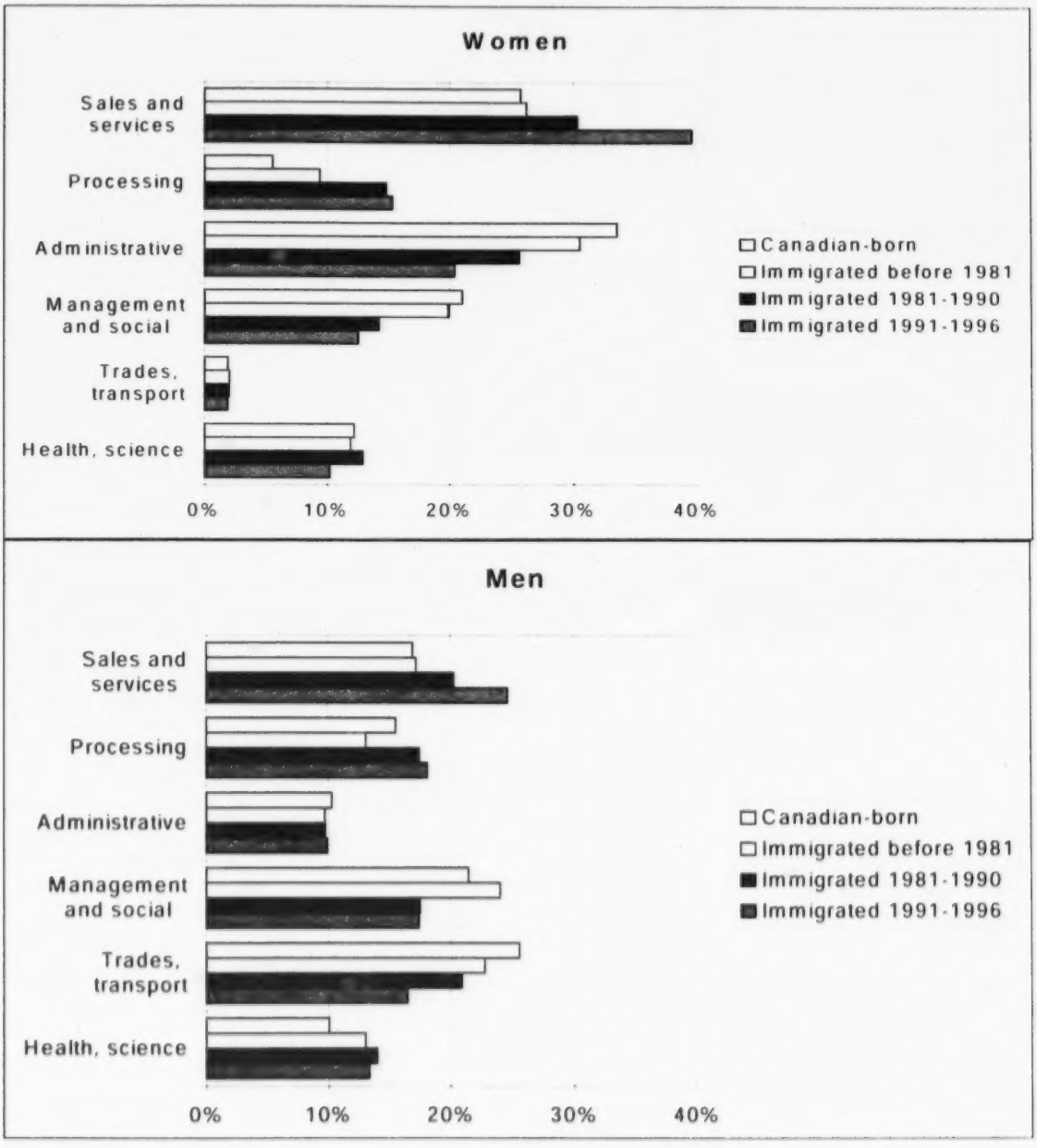
Employed immigrants are more likely than their Canadian-born counterparts to work in sales and services and processing occupations, particularly so if they immigrated during the 1990s. Over one half of employed women aged 25 to 64 who landed during 1991 to 1996 are in sales and services (40%) and processing occupations (15%), compared to one third (26% and 6%) of Canadian-born women. One quarter of most recently immigrated men who are employed have sales and services jobs, compared to 17 per cent of the Canadian-born.

By contrast, administrative and management and social occupations account for a smaller share of employment for women who immigrated during 1991 to 1996 compared to the Canadian-born. For men, the Canadian-born are more likely to be employed in management and social occupations as well as trades and transport occupations than recent immigrants.

There are probably many factors that contribute to these patterns, including the selection of immigrants and their level and field of education. But the choice of occupation by immigrants also reflects adjustment to the economy and barriers to entry into professions and trades. Many new

immigrants probably find it easier to obtain employment in sales and services and in processing jobs than in other occupations.

Figure D.3: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Many employed recent immigrants in manufacturing and hospitality sector

Industries are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification, as follows:

Manufacturing	Primary industries and manufacturing
Construction & Transportation	Construction, transportation and storage, and communications
Trade	Wholesale and retail trade
Business services	Finance, insurance, real estate operators and insurance, and business services
Public sector	Government services, education and health services
Hospitality and other services	Accommodation, food and beverage industries, and other services

Compared to the Canadian-born, a large proportion of the jobs of very recently immigrated women aged 25 to 64 are in manufacturing and in hospitality and other services. By contrast, the public sector accounts for only one-half as large a share of the jobs of recent immigrants (20%) as of the Canadian-born (39%). For men, manufacturing is the largest employer for the Canadian-born as well as for immigrants. However, the proportion of jobs that are in hospitality and other services is twice as large for recent immigrants as for the Canadian-born. The employment shares of the public sector and construction and transportation show the opposite pattern.

The industrial distribution of employment of earlier immigrants is closer to that of the Canadian-born. This suggests that the industrial distribution of employment is part of the adjustment process. New immigrants have better access to jobs in some sectors than in others, and over time find jobs that may accord more with their training, aspirations and experience.

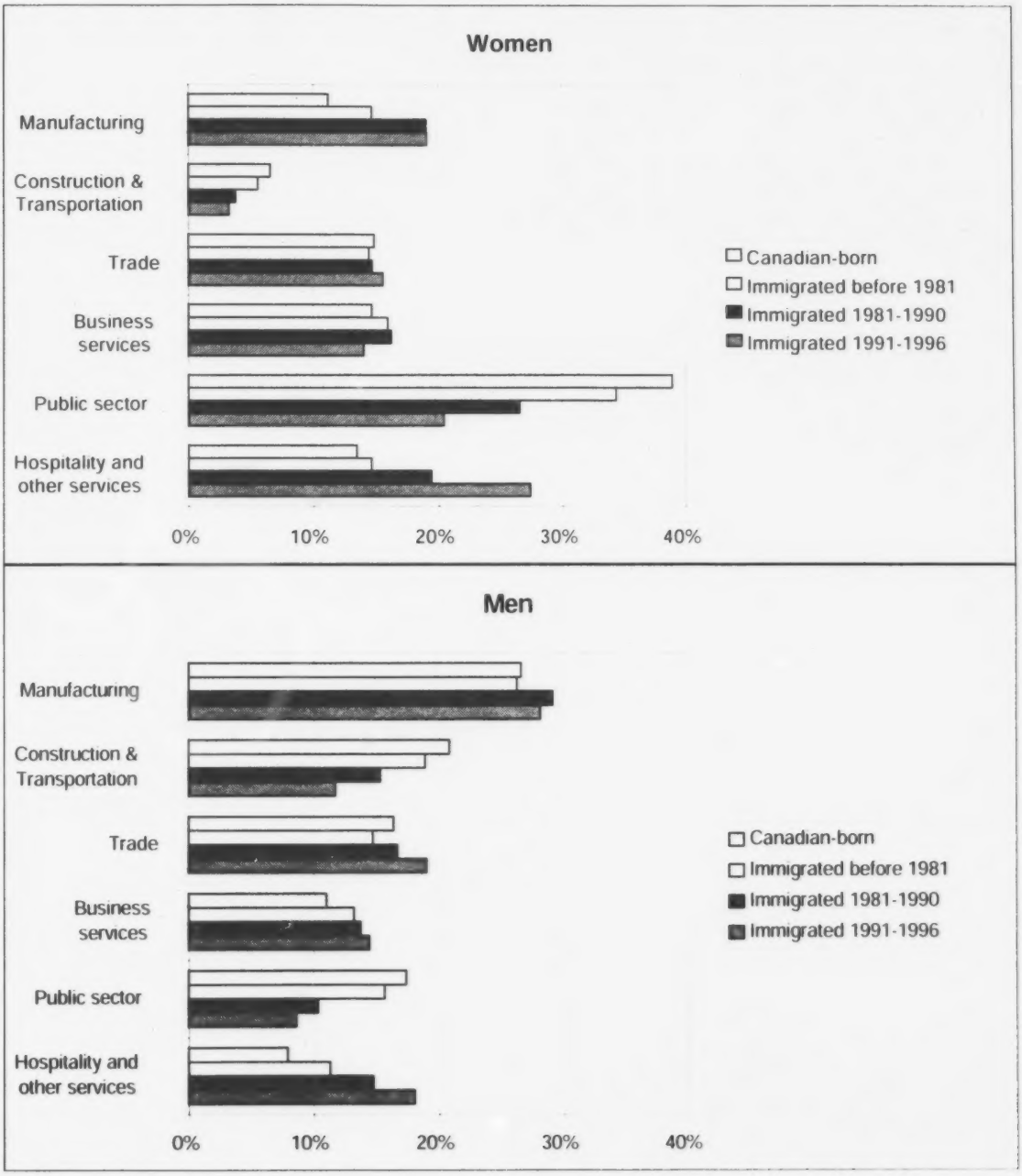
Table D.10: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Manufacturing	Construction & Transportation	Trade	Business services	Public sector	Hospitality and other services
Women						
Canadian-born	11%	7%	15%	15%	39%	13%
Immigrated before 1981	15%	6%	15%	16%	34%	15%
Immigrated 1981-1990	19%	4%	15%	16%	27%	19%
Immigrated 1991-1996	19%	3%	16%	14%	20%	27%
Men						
Canadian-born	27%	21%	16%	11%	17%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	26%	19%	15%	13%	16%	11%
Immigrated 1981-1990	29%	15%	17%	14%	10%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	28%	12%	19%	14%	9%	18%

The jobs of young Canadian-born people – who, like recent immigrants, are recent entrants into the labour market - are more concentrated in the trade sector and in hospitality and other services than those of recent immigrants aged 25 to 64. Each of these two industry groups provides between one quarter and one third of the jobs of Canadian-born aged 15 to 24 (not shown). By contrast, the manufacturing and business services sectors each account for a larger share of employment of recent immigrants than of the young Canadian-born. Thus, with regard to the distribution of jobs by

industries, recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 occupy a middle position between Canadian-born of the same age and younger Canadian-born individuals.

Figure D.4: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Skill requirements of jobs of recent immigrants lower

The tables and charts in this and the next section show the shares of jobs grouped by four levels of skill, level 4 being the highest and level 1 the lowest, as follows:

Level 1: Short work demonstration; no formal education required.
Level 2: Secondary school plus a period of specific job training.
Level 3: College level education or trade apprenticeship required.
Level 4: University education required.

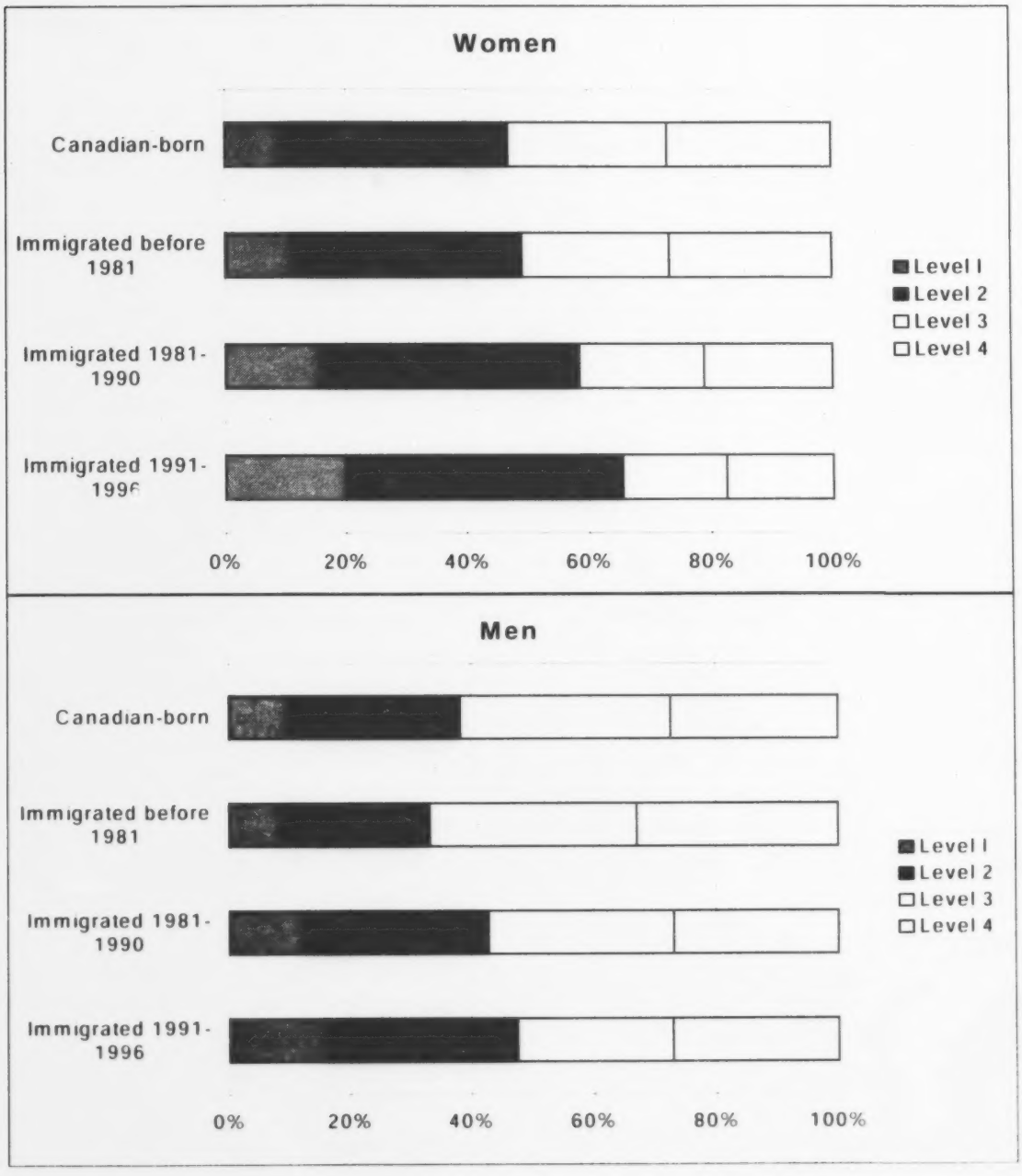
Table D.11: Employment by level of skill, women and men aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	9%	38%	26%	27%
Immigrated before 1981	11%	38%	24%	27%
Immigrated 1981-1990	16%	43%	20%	21%
Immigrated 1991-1996	20%	46%	17%	18%
Men				
Canadian-born	9%	29%	34%	27%
Immigrated before 1981	9%	25%	34%	33%
Immigrated 1981-1990	12%	31%	30%	27%
Immigrated 1991-1996	16%	31%	25%	27%

The jobs of recent immigrants require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born. For men, the proportion of jobs requiring a university education is the same for recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, but for women, there is a significant difference (18% compared to 27%). For both men and women, jobs requiring a college level education or trade apprenticeship are less common for recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born. There is a larger gap for women than for men between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born in the skill requirements of their jobs.

For women, the skill content of jobs of earlier immigrants is similar to that of the Canadian-born, while earlier immigrant men have more jobs requiring a university education than the Canadian-born. As with many other aspects of labour market activity and employment, this indicates that the situation of immigrants becomes similar to the situation of the Canadian-born as their stay in Canada lengthens.

Figure D.5: Employment by skill level, women and men aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Education of recent immigrants not fully utilised

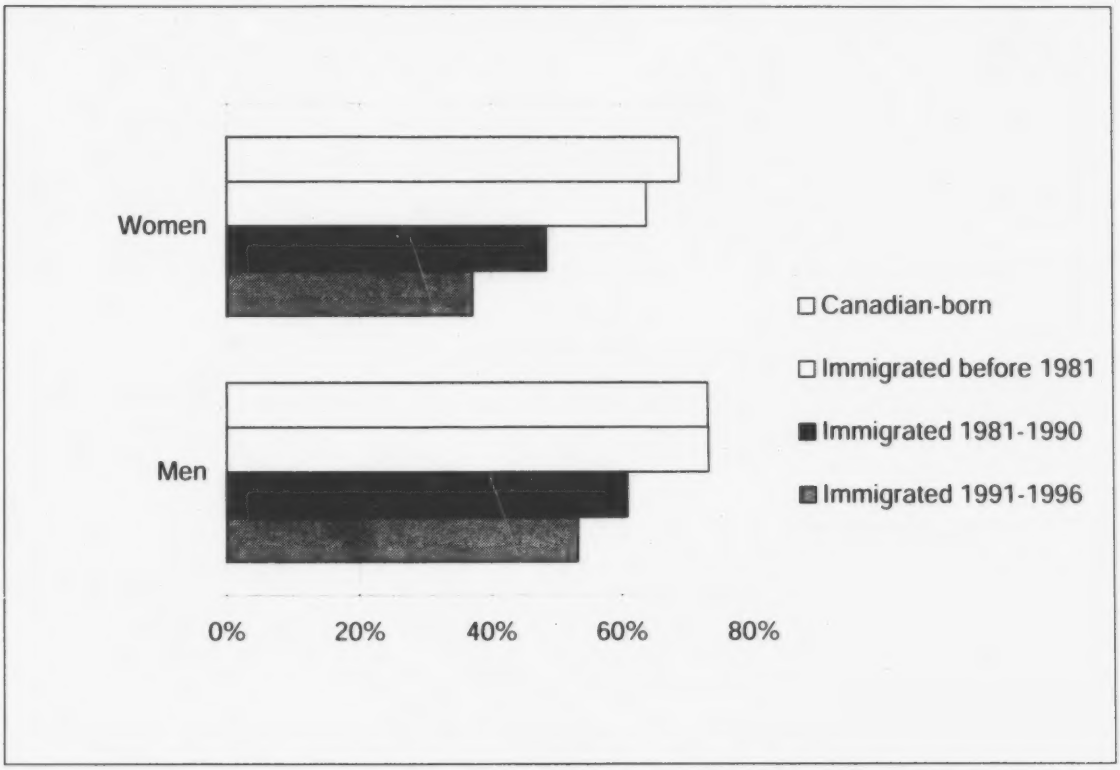
As there are differences in educational attainment between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, the information presented above about skill levels of jobs does not directly indicate whether skills of recent immigrants are fully or less than fully employed in the economy. To do so, one has to compare the skill levels of jobs of recent immigrants and the Canadian-born for a given level of education. This is done in Table D.12 for persons holding a university degree, and can be done in the same way for other levels of educational attainment. The four skill levels are defined in the box above Table D.11.

Table D.12: Skill levels of jobs of university graduates, women and men aged 25 to 64, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	1%	14%	15%	69%
Immigrated before 1981	2%	17%	17%	64%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	27%	19%	49%
Immigrated 1991-1996	11%	34%	18%	37%
Men				
Canadian-born	2%	10%	15%	73%
Immigrated before 1981	2%	10%	15%	73%
Immigrated 1981-1990	4%	16%	18%	61%
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	20%	18%	53%

The jobs of recent immigrants with a university degree do not require the same level of skill as the jobs of the Canadian-born. Two-thirds of employed Canadian-born women with a university degree have a job requiring a university degree (69%). But only somewhat more than one-third of employed women who immigrated in the 1990s has a job at that level (37%). Almost three-quarters of Canadian-born men with a university degree have a job requiring a university education (73%). But only about one half of the jobs of the most recent immigrants with a university degree are at that level (53%).

Figure D.6: Proportion of workers with a university degree who have a job requiring a university education, Canada, 1996



PART E: INCOME

Sources and level of income

Sources of income show effect of migration

In this section, three broad sources of income are distinguished:

(1) Employment income, consisting of wages and salaries or income from self-employment;
(2) Other private income, consisting of investment income (mainly interest and dividends), retirement income and income from all other private sources; and
(3) Transfers from government, including Unemployment Insurance benefits, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits, Old Age Security benefits and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and other benefits such as workers' compensation and social assistance. Also included are the Child Tax Benefit, refunds of the Goods and Services Tax, and provincial tax credits.

A person may have income from one, two or all three sources. Income reported in the 1996 census is income for the year 1995, of persons 15 years of age and over. Most immigrants who landed during or after 1995 have not had the full year 1995 to obtain income in Canada, and are therefore not included.

Table E.1: Persons with income by source and without income, Canada, 1995 (as a percentage of the population of 15 years and over)

	No income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers	Number of persons
Women					
Canadian-born	10%	62%	32%	58%	9,110,600
Immigrated before 1981	6%	53%	39%	64%	1,457,800
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	60%	21%	56%	515,400
Immigrated 1991-1994	20%	52%	19%	56%	348,100
Men					
Canadian-born	5%	75%	29%	74%	8,695,800
Immigrated before 1981	1%	67%	41%	78%	1,381,900
Immigrated 1981-1990	6%	74%	19%	77%	479,800
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	66%	20%	80%	305,900

Income from employment is the most common source of income for the Canadian-born. Sixty-two per cent of Canadian-born women and 75 per cent of Canadian-born men had earnings from employment in 1995. A larger share of the Canadian-born than of immigrants have income from employment. For immigrants who arrived before the 1980s the proportion with employment earnings is low because they tend to be older and many are in retirement. The low share of the most recent immigrants with employment income reflects lower participation in the workforce.

Compared to the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants, the proportion of recent immigrants with no income is large. However, the proportion of immigrant men and women who do not have income decreases significantly with length of stay in Canada, and ultimately falls below that of the Canadian-born.

The share of recent immigrants with other private income – income from investments, pension plans etc. – is well below the share of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. This probably reflects the relatively young age of most recent immigrants, and lower savings related to the cost and income loss associated with moving to a different country.

The proportion of recent immigrants receiving transfers from the government is about the same as the proportion of Canadian-born persons, it being somewhat lower for women and somewhat higher for men. The high proportion of earlier immigrants receiving transfers from government reflects the high share of seniors in this group, who generally receive Old Age Security and Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits.

Average income increases with length of stay

In Tables E.2 and E.3 in this section on sources and level of income, average income refers to income of persons with income, and excludes persons who report no income. The proportion of persons who report no income is given in Table E.1. In the next section on the distribution of income, which includes tables E.5 and E.6, average income refers to income of all persons, including those with no income.

Table E.2: Level of income and distribution of income by source, Canada, 1995

		Income by source (percent of total)		
	Average income of persons with income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers
Women				
Canadian-born	$19,300	71%	11%	18%
Immigrated before 1981	$21,500	64%	15%	21%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$16,600	77%	7%	16%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$12,200	72%	10%	18%
Men				
Canadian-born	$31,300	79%	10%	11%
Immigrated before 1981	$35,800	74%	13%	13%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$25,300	85%	5%	10%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$18,600	79%	8%	14%

Among persons who reported having income during the year 1995, the average income of recent immigrants is lower than that of other Canadians. For very recent immigrants, average income is around 60 per cent of that of the Canadian-born; those who immigrated during the 1980s have reached four-fifths of that level; and earlier immigrants on average have incomes well above those of the population born in Canada. The relative levels and patterns are quite similar for both genders, while average income of men is 50 to 60 per cent higher than that of women. Among the reasons for the difference in income between men and women are lower labour force participation and higher incidence of part-time work among women than among men, as shown in Part D.

Earnings from employment make up about the same proportion of income of the most recent immigrants as of persons born in Canada, and a higher proportion of income of persons who immigrated during the 1980s. Transfers from government make up a similar share of the income of recent immigrants than of others, which means that they are lower in absolute amount, as total income of recent immigrants is lower. Other private income is low for recent immigrants, as a share of income, and also as an amount.

Earnings of recent immigrants who worked mostly full-time lower

Table E.3: Wage and salary income of persons who worked mostly full-time, as a percentage of the overall average, Canada, 1995

	Amount	Percentage of overall average
Canadian-born	$31,900	100%
Immigrated before 1981	$37,200	116%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$27,100	85%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$20,300	63%
All who worked mostly full time	$32,000	100%

The wages and salaries earned by recent immigrants who worked mostly full-time in 1995 are below the Canadian average. As was shown in the previous section, recent immigrants generally have jobs that require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born, and would therefore generally receive lower rates of pay. As well, annual earnings depend on whether a person was employed throughout the year or not. It is likely that recent immigrants more often do not have steady, year-round jobs than the Canadian-born. Earlier immigrants working full-time earn considerably more than the Canadian-born.

Transfers from government a larger share of income

To examine transfers from governments more closely, this section focuses on households. Households are classified according to the presence of immigrants and recent immigrants in the same way as in Part C. However, only immigrants who landed before 1995 are considered here. All households with immigrants who landed during 1995 and 1996 have been excluded. As transfers from government vary considerably with the age of the recipient, households are classified by age.

Defining "Age of household"
By age of household is meant the age of a principal person in the household. The age of family households is the age of the older of the spouses or the lone parent in the family. For non-family households, age refers to the age of the oldest person in the household.

Table E.4: Transfers from government to households, by age of household, Canada, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	All households
Share of households receiving transfers					
Canadian-born households	93%	89%	87%	100%	91%
Earlier immigrant households	95%	85%	85%	100%	90%
Recent immigrant households	92%	93%	93%	99%	93%
1980s immigrants	*92%*	*91%*	*91%*	*99%*	*92%*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*96%*	*92%*	*95%*	*100%*	*94%*
1991-94 immigrants only	*90%*	*97%*	*98%*	*99%*	*97%*
Average amount of transfer per receiving household					
Canadian-born households	$3,900	$4,700	$5,400	$15,300	$7,300
Earlier immigrant households	$3,700	$4,800	$5,400	$16,100	$9,100
Recent immigrant households	$4,100	$5,400	$5,700	$11,600	$6,100
1980s immigrants	*$4,100*	*$5,300*	*$5,600*	*$12,700*	*$6,200*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*$4,400*	*$5,600*	*$6,800*	*$12,700*	*$6,900*
1991-94 immigrants only	*$3,900*	*$5,500*	*$5,200*	*$6,300*	*$5,400*
Transfers from government as a share of average household income					
Canadian-born households	18%	9%	8%	45%	14%
Earlier immigrant households	13%	7%	7%	40%	14%
Recent immigrant households	22%	11%	10%	25%	12%
1980s immigrants	*21%*	*10%*	*9%*	*29%*	*12%*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*15%*	*10%*	*9%*	*20%*	*11%*
1991-94 immigrants only	*32%*	*18%*	*14%*	*19%*	*17%*

In 1995, the large majority of households received transfers from government. Almost all households with persons of 65 years of age and older received such transfers - Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan Benefits. But from 85 per cent to 95 per cent of Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households without seniors also received some income from a government program, whether from Unemployment Insurance, Workers Compensation, social assistance, student assistance, or other programs.

Recent immigrant households in the 25-64 age group were more likely to receive a transfer from government than other households. The share receiving such transfers is highest among households consisting exclusively of persons who immigrated during 1991 to 1994, the most recent immigrants. These households were probably more in need of assistance from government because members were not yet fully participating in the economy. As well, recent immigrant households are relatively large, and thus are likely to receive higher amounts of transfers either because more members are entitled to benefits like employment insurance payments or because of greater need. On the other hand, recent immigrant households would not have had time to build up significant entitlements under the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans.

The average payment received varies considerably by age of household. Households of Canadian-born seniors and of seniors who immigrated before 1981 received an average payment in the order of $15,000 or more. Households of recently immigrated seniors on average received less than households of Canadian-born seniors.

Other households received from $3,700 to $6,800. Households of recent immigrants in the 25-64 age group had a higher probability of receiving government transfers, and also received a higher average amount than households of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. Earlier immigrant households in the 25-64 age group had a somewhat smaller probability of receiving transfers than Canadian-born households and received approximately the same amount on average.

Government transfers make up a smaller share of the income of recent immigrant households (12%) than of other households (14%). Behind this simple fact lies a complex pattern of differences. For households of recently immigrated seniors, government transfers make up a much smaller share of income than for earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born. The opposite relationship holds for households consisting of most recent immigrants only where the principal adult is of working age. Other immigrant households are similar to Canadian-born households.

From majority below $10,000 to larger share in middle and upper income range

Table E.5: Distribution of personal income, persons 15 years and over, Canada, 1995 (percentage distribution)

	Without income	$1 to $10,000	$10,000 to $30,000	$30,000 to $50,000	over $50,000	Average income
Women						
Canadian-born	10%	30%	40%	15%	5%	$17,400
Immigrated before 1981	6%	24%	47%	16%	6%	$20,100
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	34%	39%	11%	3%	$14,300
Immigrated 1991-1994	20%	41%	33%	5%	1%	$9,800
Men						
Canadian-born	5%	21%	33%	24%	17%	$29,800
Immigrated before 1981	1%	14%	38%	26%	22%	$35,600
Immigrated 1981-1990	6%	27%	36%	20%	11%	$23,700
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	35%	39%	12%	5%	$17,100

Of very recent immigrants, 61 per cent of women and 44 per cent of men reported no income or income of less than $10,000 in 1995. The proportion without income and with income of less than $10,0000 is lower for persons who immigrated during the 1980s, and lower still for earlier immigrants.

At the high end of the income scale, recent immigrants and especially very recent immigrants are underrepresented. The proportion with incomes over $50,000 among immigrants who landed during the 1980s is 3 per cent for women and 11 per cent for men.

The average income of most recent immigrants is between 55 and 60 per cent of that of the Canadian-born, and that of immigrants who landed during the 1980s is 80 per cent of that level. Earlier immigrants have a higher average income than the Canadian-born, and the income of men is about 70 per cent higher than that of women.

If the circumstances of earlier immigrants can be taken as an indication of what recent immigrants can be expected to achieve with time, then a general, widespread upward shift can be expected in incomes of persons who immigrated during the 1980s and 1990s in years to come.

The incomes of earlier immigrants are distributed more like those of the Canadian-born. A larger share of earlier immigrants than Canadians have incomes in the low middle, high middle and high income ranges. Judging by these numbers, one would expect that, over time, the incomes of recent immigrants will shift up and eventually surpass those of the Canadian-born.

Level, as well as distribution, of household income very similar

Table E.6: Distribution of household income, Canada, 1995 (percentage distribution)

Households	$0 to $20,000	$20,000 to $40,000	$40,000 to $60,000	$60,000 to $80,000	Over $80,000	Average income
Canadian-born	24%	26%	21%	14%	14%	$47,200
Earlier immigrants	19%	24%	20%	15%	22%	$56,900
Recent immigrants	26%	27%	21%	13%	14%	$46,400
1980s immigrants	*23%*	*25%*	*21%*	*14%*	*16%*	*$49,600*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*11%*	*25%*	*26%*	*17%*	*21%*	*$58,600*
1991-94 immigrants only	*41%*	*32%*	*16%*	*6%*	*5%*	*$31,100*

In 1995, recent immigrant households had average income of $46,400, a level close to the average income of Canadian-born households, and 82 per cent of the income of earlier immigrant households. The income of households consisting only of immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1994 is two-thirds of the income of households of the Canadian-born.

The distributions of income of recent immigrant and Canadian-born households are almost identical. Interestingly, the income of households of the most recent immigrants depends on whether the household includes other persons. Households that have other members tend to have high incomes, and households of most recent immigrants only have rather low incomes on average. As indicated in Table C.7, households of most recent immigrants with others are more likely than other households to consist of expanded and multiple families, and tend to be larger than other households. The fact that one or more members of the household have lived in Canada for more than five years and are more likely to participate in the labour market also plays a role.

Over time, the incomes of many immigrant households improve, even as they become smaller in size.

Four in ten very recent immigrants have low incomes

One way of examining income inequality is to see whether persons in certain groups are more likely than persons in other groups to have incomes that fall below the overall median income. The median income is the middle income when incomes are ordered by size, from high to low. One-half of incomes are higher, one-half are lower. And to measure more severe inequality, the percentage of incomes falling below one-half of the median income is examined.

Figure E.1 and Table E.7 show the percentage of people with income below the median. For people living in families, the family income was compared to the median family income. For non-family persons – much smaller in number, particularly among recent immigrants – their individual income was compared to the median income of all non-family persons. Unattached individuals under 15 years of age are not included as no income data is available. The proportion of persons with income below one-half of the median, shown in Figure E.1 and Table E.8, was derived in the same way.

The percentages shown in this section were obtained by summing, over 25 CMAs and over 12 non-CMA areas in each province and territory, the number of people with income below the median or below one-half of the median for that geographic area, and dividing the sum so obtained by the total number of people. Thus, the numbers do not reflect a single measure of median income for all of Canada, but a different measure for each CMA, province and territory. Median income of families (defined as two or more persons related by blood, marriage, common-law status or adoption, and living together in the same household) ranges from $41,974 in Sherbrooke to $60,118 in Oshawa, and from $37,368 in Newfoundland to $57,006 in the Yukon Territory. Median income of unattached individuals ranges from $13,352 in Trois Rivieres to $22,753 in Toronto, and from $13,831 in Newfoundland to $28,217 in the Northwest Territories.

As family size has not been considered in these calculations, and as larger families are likely to have higher income (but not necessarily higher income per member of the family), the proportion of persons in the total population living in families with income below the median may be less than 50 per cent. 50 per cent of women and 46 per cent of men live in families with income below the median. 19 per cent of women and 17 per cent of men live in families with income below one half of the median.

Figure E.1: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median and below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Canada, 1995

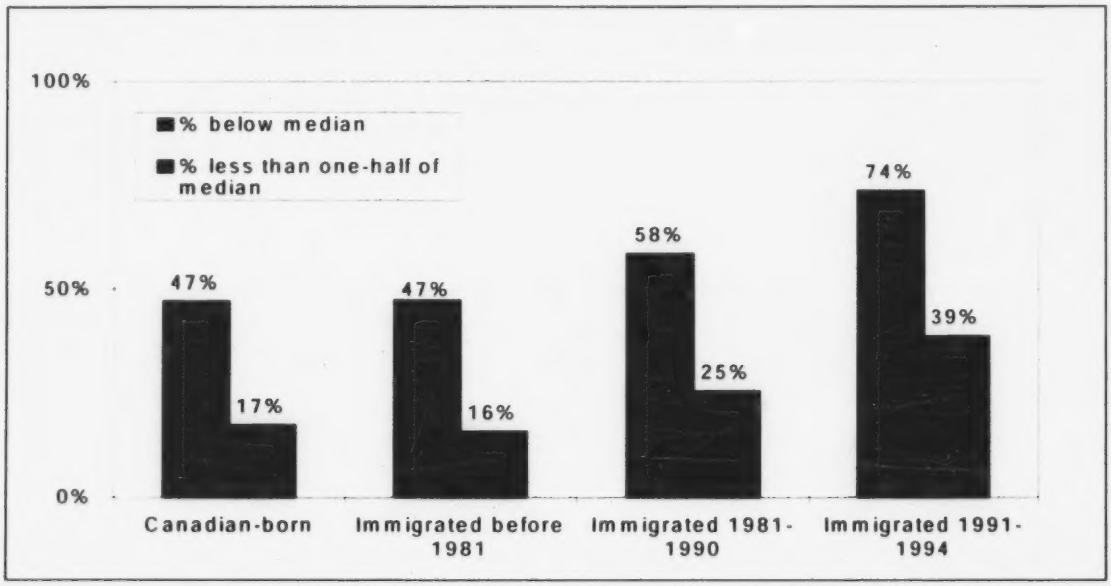


Table E.7: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Canada, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	50%	49%	44%	67%	49%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	49%	42%	67%	50%
Immigrated 1981-1990	63%	63%	58%	62%	60%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	78%	77%	73%	62%	74%
Men					
Canadian-born	50%	43%	40%	67%	45%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	44%	37%	66%	45%
Immigrated 1981-1990	64%	59%	55%	63%	57%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	79%	76%	71%	64%	73%

Recent immigrants are more likely than earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born to live in families with incomes that fall below the overall median, or if they do not live in families, to have income below the median for unattached individuals. They are also more likely to live in families with incomes that fall below one-half of the median income. The percentage of immigrants in families with incomes in the lower part of the income distribution declines in relation to their length of stay in Canada.

The proportion of people with incomes below the median varies with age. For the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants, the highest proportions are found among seniors. But this is not so for the most recent immigrants, where incomes below the median are more common at younger ages. Persons who immigrated during the 1980s occupy a middle ground in this regard.

In all age groups with the exception of seniors the proportion of persons with income below the overall median is higher among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born. For seniors, the opposite applies. This probably reflects programs of income support for seniors as well as extended-family arrangements, which are relatively common for recently immigrated seniors.

Table E.8: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below one-half of the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Canada, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	20%	22%	17%	15%	18%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	21%	15%	17%	16%
Immigrated 1981-1990	28%	31%	25%	27%	27%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	43%	43%	38%	32%	39%
Men					
Canadian-born	20%	18%	14%	21%	16%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	18%	12%	24%	15%
Immigrated 1981-1990	30%	28%	22%	31%	24%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	43%	42%	36%	36%	38%

Almost four out of ten very recent immigrants live in a low income situation. The proportion of persons experiencing low income is much higher for very recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born in all age groups. Over time the proportion drops to a level similar to that for the Canadian-born, evidence of full adjustment of immigrants to the Canadian economy.

Crowded accommodation more common for recent immigrants

In Tables F.1 and F.2, a room is defined as an enclosed area within a dwelling that is suitable for year-round living: a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or a finished room in attic or basement. Not counted as rooms are bathrooms, halls, vestibules and spaces used solely for business purposes. Accommodation is defined as "crowded" when there are more persons in the household than rooms in the dwelling, i.e. when there is more than one person per room.

Table F.1: Number of persons per room, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
Canadian-born	61%	30%	6%	4%	8,078,000
Earlier immigrants	62%	29%	5%	4%	1,795,000
Recent immigrants	25%	34%	14%	27%	905,000
1980s immigrants	31%	37%	13%	19%	468,000
1990s immigrants with others	20%	33%	16%	31%	192,000
1990s immigrants only	18%	29%	14%	39%	245,000

Households of recent immigrants have space per person that is well below the average in this country. One-quarter of recent immigrant households (27%) live in crowded conditions (i.e. there are fewer rooms than people in the home). The incidence of crowding is particularly high among households consisting only of very recent immigrants (39%). By contrast, crowding is very rare among households of the Canadian-born (4%) and earlier immigrants (4%).

Large households likely to have crowded accommodation

Table F.2: Persons per room and size of household, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Household size	Type of household	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
1 to 3 persons	Canadian-born	75%	21%	2%	2%	6,077,000
	Earlier immigrants	77%	19%	2%	3%	1,282,000
	Recent immigrants	40%	35%	8%	17%	479,000
	1980s immigrants	*49%*	*33%*	*7%*	*11%*	249,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*34%*	*39%*	*10%*	*17%*	91,000
	1990s immigrants only	*28%*	*34%*	*11%*	*27%*	138,000
4 or 5 persons	Canadian-born	22%	57%	14%	6%	1,814,000
	Earlier immigrants	26%	57%	11%	6%	450,000
	Recent immigrants	10%	39%	19%	32%	324,000
	1980s immigrants	*13%*	*46%*	*19%*	*23%*	177,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*10%*	*36%*	*18%*	*35%*	62,000
	1990s immigrants only	*6%*	*26%*	*19%*	*49%*	86,000
6 or more persons	Canadian-born	4%	33%	33%	30%	187,000
	Earlier immigrants	5%	39%	33%	24%	63,000
	Recent immigrants	2%	16%	25%	57%	102,000
	1980s immigrants	*2%*	*21%*	*29%*	*48%*	42,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*2%*	*15%*	*24%*	*59%*	39,000
	1990s immigrants only	*1%*	*8%*	*18%*	*74%*	21,000

Crowding is related to size of household. The larger the household, the greater the chance that there are more persons than rooms in the dwelling. This pattern is found among households of the Canadian-born as well as immigrants. But there is much less crowding in households of the Canadian-born than in households of recent immigrants, whatever their size.

As shown earlier, households of immigrants who arrived before the 1980s are similar to the households of the Canadian-born in size. They also have accommodation that is similar in size to that of the Canadian-born. This suggests that immigrants form large households and live in relatively crowded conditions for a period after their arrival, so as to keep the cost of accommodation down. But when economic circumstances permit, they split into smaller household units or move to more spacious accommodation. Households also become smaller when children of immigrants become adults and establish their own households.

Table F.3: Cost of accommodation as a share of household income, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Less than 30%	30% to 50%	50% or more
Canadian-born	75%	13%	11%
Earlier immigrants	77%	14%	9%
Recent immigrants	61%	20%	19%
1980s immigrants	64%	19%	17%
1991-94 immigrants with others	72%	17%	10%
1991-94 immigrants only	47%	23%	30%
All households	74%	14%	12%

More than one half of households (53%) made up exclusively of immigrants who immigrated between 1991 and 1994 spend more than 30 per cent of their income on accommodation. For three out of ten of these households the cost of accommodation even exceeds 50 per cent of income. Of Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households, only one quarter (24% and 23% respectively) has housing costs in excess of 30 per cent of income.

Housing costs of more than 30 per cent of income are considered burdensome, and households facing that level of cost as a rule have low incomes. Many households of recently arrived immigrants have low incomes and try to keep the cost of accommodation down by choosing small quarters and making their households large. But often this is not enough to bring housing costs down to less than 30 per cent of income.

Table F.4: Period of construction, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

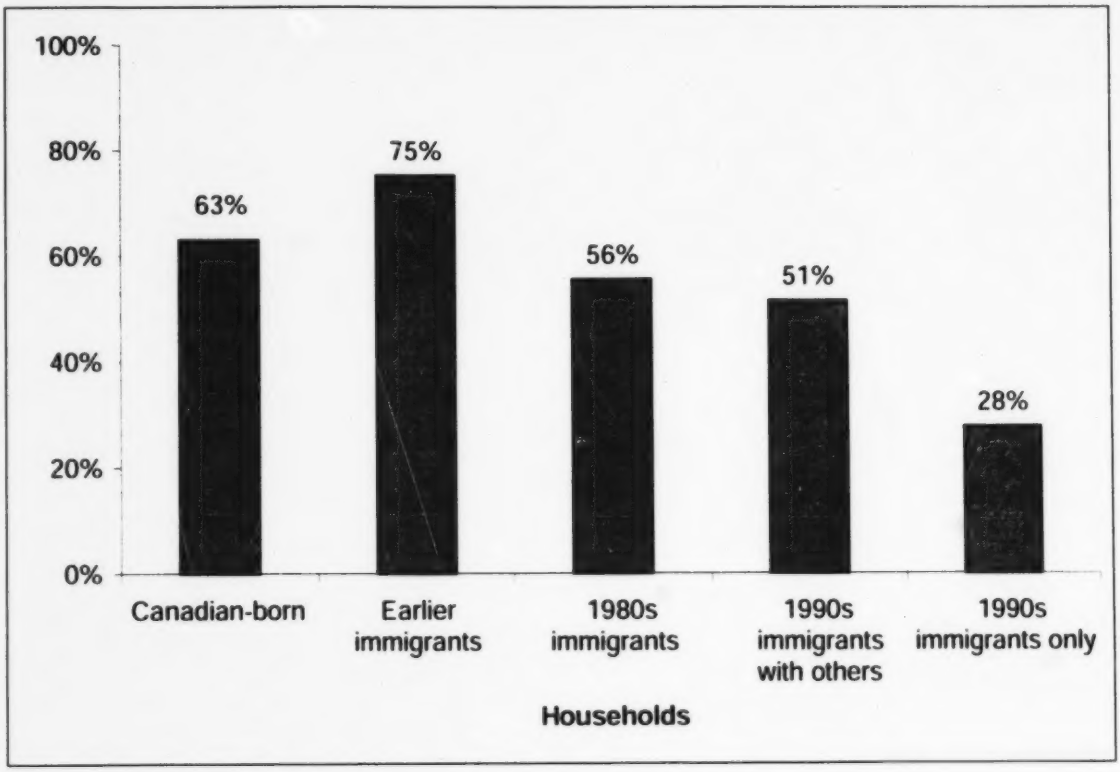
Households	Before 1961	1961-1980	After 1980
Canadian-born	34%	39%	27%
Earlier immigrants	31%	41%	28%
Recent immigrants	24%	43%	33%
1980s immigrants	*25%*	*41%*	*34%*
1990s immigrants with othe	*26%*	*41%*	*33%*
1990s immigrants only	*21%*	*47%*	*32%*
All households	33%	39%	28%

The dwellings where households of immigrants who arrived after 1980 live have been more recently built than the houses of the Canadian-born, and the proportion in need of major repair is relatively low. This suggests that, although the cost of housing is clearly a challenge for many recent immigrants, they tend not to resort to sub-standard accommodation.

Table F.5: Quality of housing, Canada, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Regular maintenance	Minor repairs	Major repairs
Canadian-born	64%	27%	9%
Earlier immigrants	68%	25%	7%
Recent immigrants	68%	24%	8%
1980s immigrants	67%	25%	8%
1990s immigrants with othe	67%	25%	8%
1990s immigrants only	71%	21%	7%
All households	65%	26%	8%

Figure F.1: Households owning their home as a percentage of all households, Canada, 1996



Only somewhat more than one quarter (28%) of households consisting exclusively of immigrants who arrived during 1991-1996 own their home, compared to close to two-thirds (63%) of households of the Canadian-born and three quarters (75%) of earlier immigrants. More than one-half of the joint households of very recent immigrants and others (51%) and of households of immigrants who landed during the 1980s (56%) own their home.

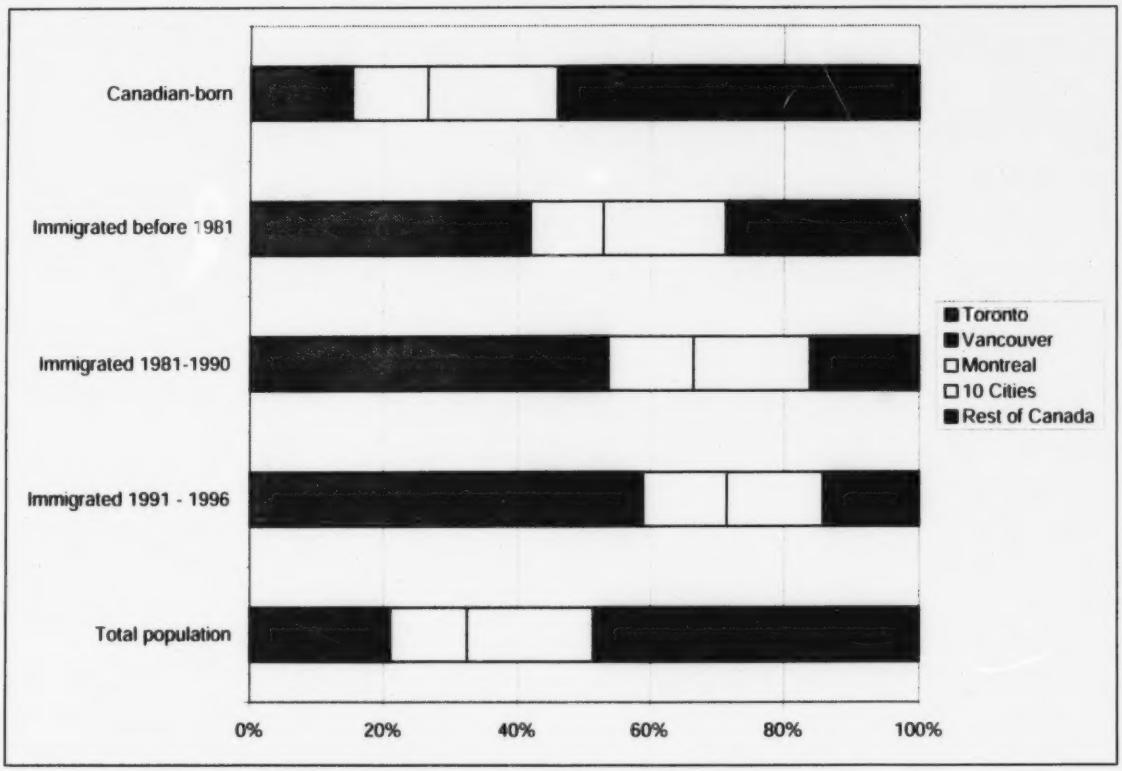
Home-ownership is much higher among earlier immigrants than the Canadian-born. This probably reflects the higher average age of earlier immigrants, but it may also point to different priorities. It also suggests that the high frequency of rental tenure among households consisting only of recent immigrants is a temporary phenomenon that is a part of the adjustment process.

PART G: DIVERSITY ACROSS CANADA

Five geographic areas

Immigrants live in metropolitan centres

Figure G.1: Area of residence of the population by immigrant status, 1996



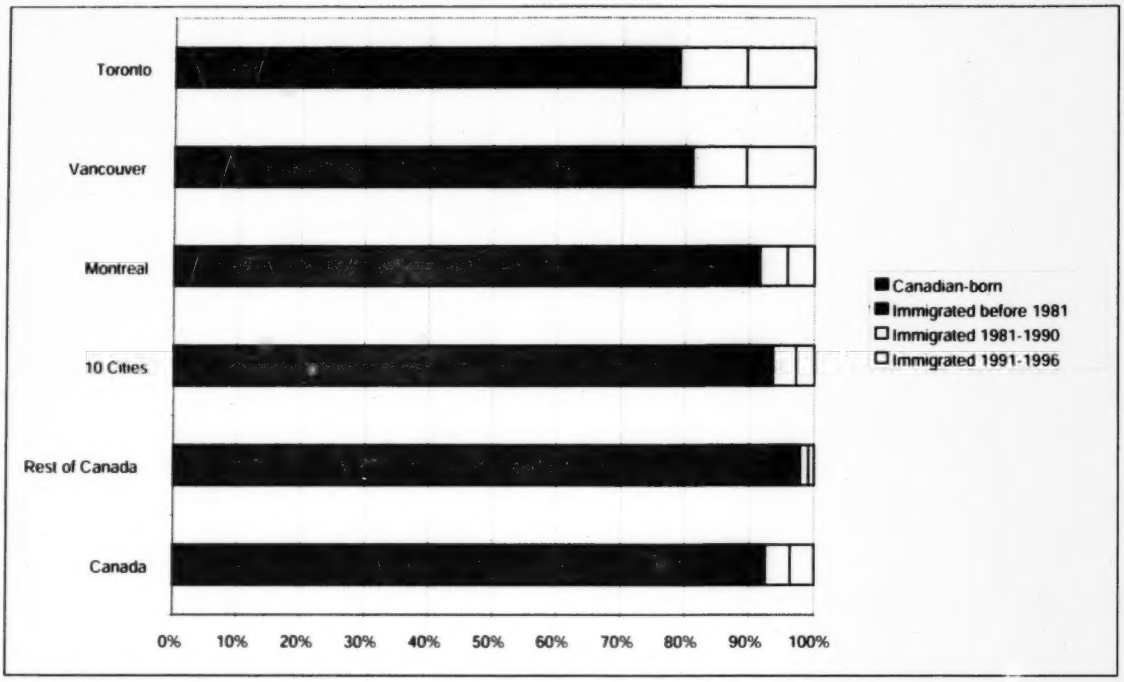
The geographic distributions of recent and earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born are markedly different. Most immigrants live in the large cities, and their concentration in the large centres has been increasing. Persons born in Canada live all over the country; less than one-half reside in the 13 urban areas for which profiles of recent immigrants have been produced as companion documents to this Canada-wide portrait.

Thus, as comparisons are drawn between the geographic areas, readers may want to bear in mind not only that the Canadian-born population is much larger than the number of recent immigrants, but also that the majority lives outside the centres where most of the recent immigrants are found. More than one-half of the Canadian-born (54%) live in the "Rest of Canada", compared to only one in six recent immigrants (16% of those who immigrated during 1981-1990 and 15% of those who immigrated during 1991-1996). Montreal as well as the 10 cities taken together (Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Quebec City and Halifax) have approximately the same share of the country's recent immigrants and of the Canadian-born. Toronto and Vancouver are home to a far larger share of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born.

Table G.1: Area of residence of the population by immigrant status, 1996

	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada	Number
Canadian-born	10%	5%	11%	19%	54%	23,390,000
Immigrated before 1981	32%	10%	11%	18%	29%	2,840,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	40%	14%	13%	17%	16%	1,092,000
Immigrated 1991 - 1996	42%	18%	13%	15%	15%	1,039,000
Total population	15%	6%	11%	19%	49%	28,361,000

Figure G.2: Immigrant status of the population, Canada and five areas, 1996 (percentage distribution)



In Toronto and Vancouver, recent immigrants make up approximately one fifth of the population (21% and 19% respectively). In Montreal and the 10 cities their share is 7 to 8 per cent, and outside the 13 urban centres it is a very modest 2 per cent. In some urban areas in Ontario (Kitchener, London, Windsor) recent immigrants account for 7 to 8 per cent of the population, a share similar to that for Montreal and the group of 10 cities. This means that in the rest of the country, outside the 13 major urban centres and three other urban areas in Ontario, recent immigrants make up even less than 2 per cent of the population

Table G.2: Immigrant status of the population, Canada and five areas, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Canadian-born	82%	58%	65%	82%	84%	92%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	21%	16%	10%	10%	6%
Immigrated 1981-1990	4%	10%	8%	4%	4%	1%
Immigrated 1991-1996	4%	11%	11%	4%	3%	1%
Total population	28,361,000	4,180,000	1,790,000	3,251,000	5,378,000	13,762,000

Mix of immigration classes varies among five areas

Table G.3: Inflow of recent immigrants by immigration class, Canada and five areas, 1981-1995 (percentage distribution)

Major classes	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada	Number
Family	39%	42%	37%	31%	39%	39%	981,000
Economic	40%	38%	48%	49%	37%	41%	1,016,000
Refugee	14%	12%	7%	12%	21%	14%	364,000
Other	6%	7%	8%	8%	3%	6%	154,000

Over the period 1981-1995, the numbers of immigrants entering through the family class and through the economic class were virtually the same. Two out of five (39%) immigrants entered through the family class, and another two out of five through the economic class. One in seven (14%) immigrants were refugees.

These proportions are not exactly replicated in the five geographic areas. Thus, relatively fewer immigrants headed for Vancouver and Montreal entered through the family class, and more were economic immigrants. One in five immigrants who planned to settle in the 10 cities (21%) were refugees, a much larger proportion than for the three largest metropolitan areas. One quarter or more of recent immigrants who planned to live in Quebec City, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Saskatoon were refugees. In Ottawa, for instance, there is a large Somali community.

These differences in background probably are reflected in the present immigrant population of the five areas, but perhaps not fully so. Immigrants may not have settled in their intended destination, or they may have moved away later and perhaps even left the country, and some have died.

Age and gender distribution similar in five geographic areas

Table G.4: Age structure of the recent immigrant population, Canada and five areas, 1996 (percentage distribution)

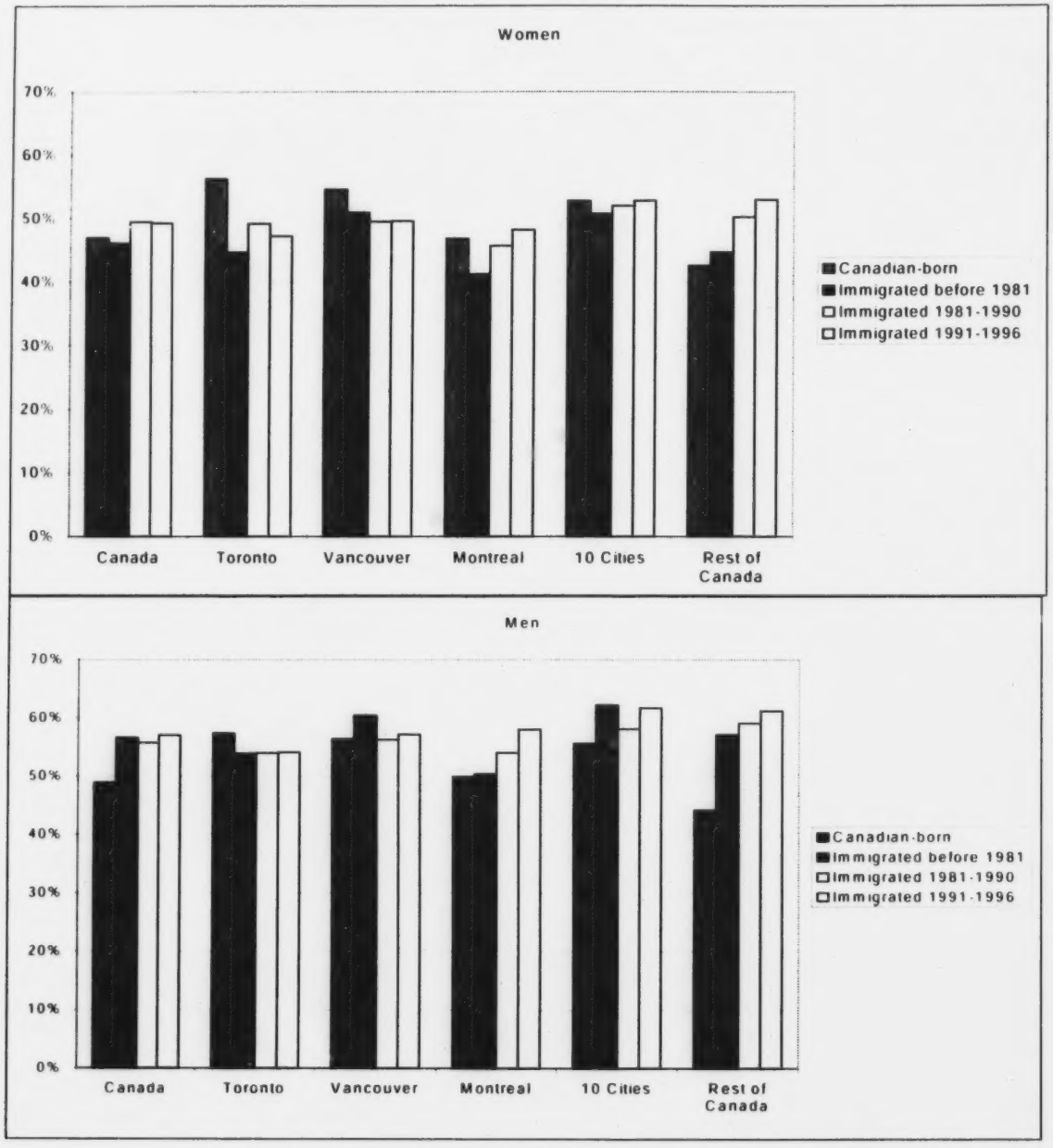
	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Canadian-born						
Under 15	24%	31%	25%	22%	23%	23%
15 to 24	14%	16%	14%	14%	15%	14%
25 to 44	32%	32%	34%	33%	34%	31%
45 to 64	19%	14%	17%	21%	19%	20%
65 and over	10%	8%	9%	10%	9%	11%
Recent immigrants						
Under 15	14%	13%	12%	14%	14%	17%
15 to 24	16%	16%	17%	17%	16%	16%
25 to 44	48%	49%	44%	49%	48%	46%
45 to 64	16%	16%	19%	15%	15%	15%
65 and over	6%	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%
Population						
Canadian-born	23,390,000	2,407,000	1,156,000	2,664,000	4,513,000	12,649,000
Recent immigrants	2,131,000	878,000	339,000	274,000	343,000	298,000

As shown in Part B, the age structures of the recent immigrant and Canadian-born populations are markedly different. Whereas the proportion of children under 15 years is much lower among recent immigrants, the adult population tends to be younger than the Canadian-born, with almost one half of recent immigrants in the 25 to 44 age group.

There are only minor differences between the geographic areas in the age structure of recent immigrants. Outside the 13 urban centres children make up a somewhat larger share than in other areas, and Vancouver has a somewhat older population than other areas. These modest differences in age structure of recent immigrants are not likely to be a major factor behind differences in the circumstances of recent immigrants in the five geographic areas.

A greater variation among the five geographic areas is found in the age structure of the Canadian-born population. Toronto's Canadian-born population is relatively young, with almost one half (47%) being less than 25 years old. In the other five areas, fewer than two in five (36 to 39%) are in this age group.

Figure G.3: Persons with a post-secondary diploma or degree, as a share of the population aged 25 to 64, Canada and five areas, 1996



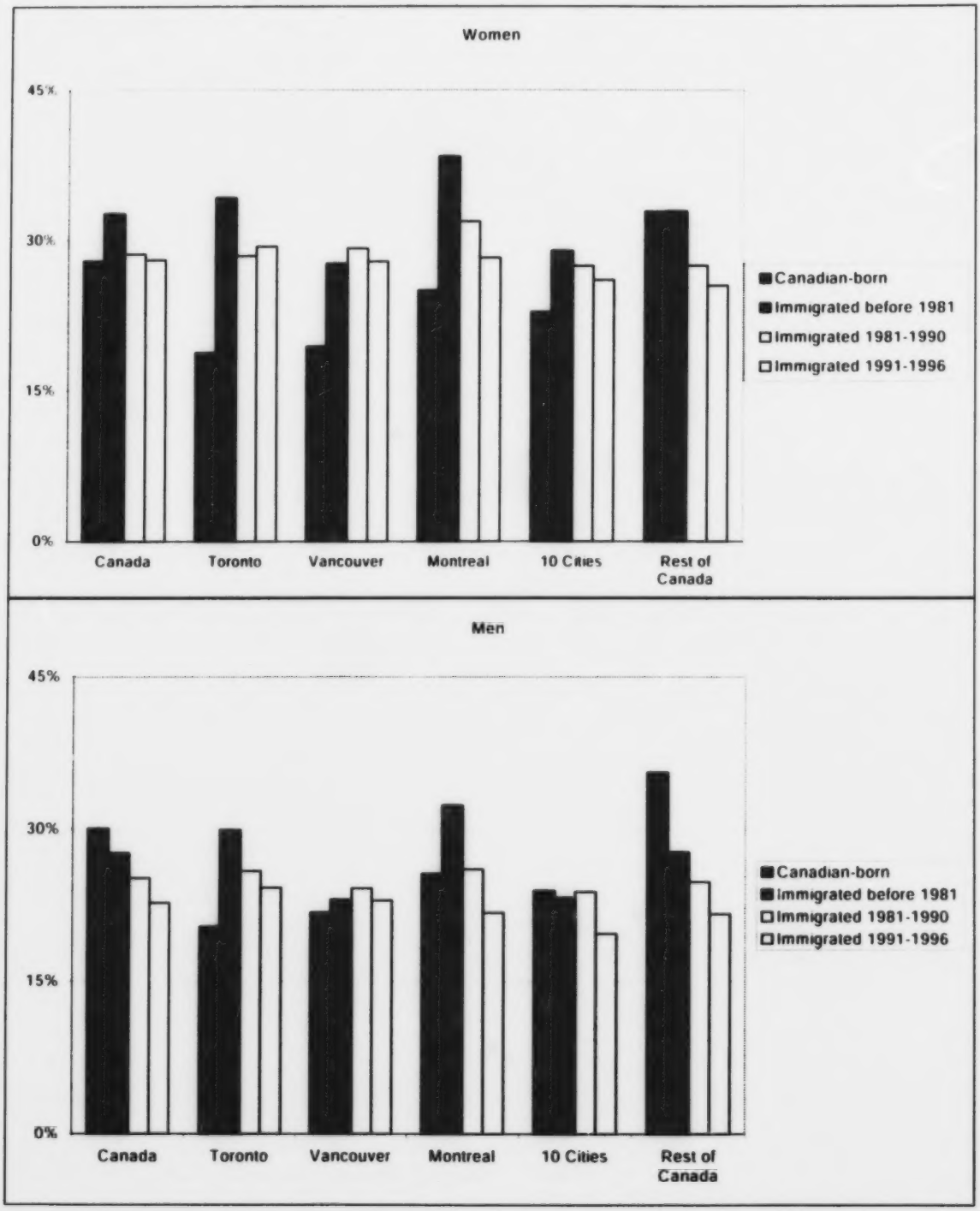
As shown above in Part B, recently immigrated men have a higher average level of education than the Canadian-born, while recently immigrated women have about the same level of education as their Canadian-born counterparts. Among both men and women, there are relatively more recent immigrants than Canadian-born with a post-secondary qualification. As well, the proportion of men without a high school diploma is smaller among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born, while for women the proportions are about the same.

But this is not how recent immigrants and the Canadian-born compare in Toronto and Vancouver. In Toronto, Canadian-born men and women have a higher average level of education than recent immigrants, and the same is true for women in Vancouver. These Canadian-born are more likely than recent immigrants to have a post-secondary diploma or degree, and they are much less likely than recent immigrants to have no high school diploma. At the other extreme is the rest of Canada, where recent immigrants have a higher level of education than the Canadian-born by a clear margin.

These patterns are not so much the result of choices made by immigrants as of differences among persons born in Canada and living in different parts of the country. In Toronto and Vancouver only about 20 per cent of the population aged 25 to 64 years has not completed high school, compared to 30 per cent nationally. The proportion of Canadian-born persons without a high school diploma in Montreal and the ten cities is also below the national average. The three metropolitan centres and the ten cities also have a larger than average share of persons with a post-secondary qualification. Clearly, the larger urban centres attract Canadian-born persons with a high level of education.

The same cannot be said of recent immigrants. The proportion without high school is very similar across the five geographic areas, and the ten cities and rest of Canada have a slightly higher proportion with a post-secondary diploma or degree than the three metropolitan centres. Thus, with respect to level of education, recent immigrants and the Canadian-born are distributed over the five areas in opposite ways, reflecting different motivations and opportunities. For many new immigrants the metropolitan centres, with their established foreign-born and ethnic communities, offer an attractive environment to make a start in Canada, notwithstanding the limited opportunities in the job market for those with average or low education. Canadians with limited education may choose to seek opportunities outside the urban centres. Immigrants who settle outside the larger urban centres may well go to jobs that they secured before immigrating and where their skills are required.

Figure G.4: Persons without a high school diploma, as a percentage of the population aged 25-64, Canada and five areas, 1996



Marriage to Canadian-born far more common in rest of Canada

Table G.5: Recent immigrant families by type, showing immigrants status of spouses, Canada and five areas, 1996

Type of family	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Lone parent family	13%	16%	11%	17%	12%	8%
Both spouses recent immigrants	57%	63%	65%	55%	54%	42%
One spouse earlier immigrant	13%	13%	13%	12%	14%	13%
One spouse Canadian-born	16%	8%	12%	15%	20%	37%

Among recent immigrant families, the proportion consisting of spouses who are both recent immigrants, with or without children, varies significantly among the five geographic areas. It is highest in Toronto and Vancouver, and lowest outside the 13 cities. The proportion of families consisting of a recent immigrant married to a Canadian-born person shows an opposite and even greater variation. It is lowest in Toronto (8%). In the rest of Canada, outside the 13 urban centres, more than one-third (37%) of recent immigrant families have one spouse born in Canada. By contrast, the proportion of families consisting of a recent immigrant married to an earlier immigrant is fairly constant across different areas, ranging from 12 to 14 per cent.

Many marital unions of recent immigrants were probably made before immigration. Many such couples have settled in the metropolitan centres. Because of the number of recent immigrants in these centres is large, recent immigrants are also rather likely to form families with other recent immigrants after arrival.

By contrast, couples consisting of a recent immigrant and a Canadian-born individual are likely to settle in areas selected by the Canadian-born partner rather than in areas favoured by immigrants. More than one half of Canadians lives outside the 13 urban centres, a choice of location probably shared by many Canadian-born married to immigrants.

Labour force participation of recent immigrants highest outside 13 cities

Table G.6: Labour force participation rates, persons aged 15 to 64, by gender, Canada and five areas, 1996

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Women						
Canadian-born	70%	76%	77%	68%	74%	67%
Immigrated before 1981	70%	71%	73%	64%	72%	67%
Immigrated 1981-1990	67%	68%	66%	57%	70%	68%
Immigrated 1991-1996	55%	55%	50%	50%	59%	60%
Men						
Canadian-born	82%	83%	85%	81%	84%	81%
Immigrated before 1981	85%	85%	86%	83%	86%	84%
Immigrated 1981-1990	80%	81%	78%	76%	82%	83%
Immigrated 1991-1996	71%	71%	64%	69%	74%	79%

The rate of labour force participation varies among the five geographic areas, particularly for women. Labour force participation of the Canadian-born population in Toronto, Vancouver and the 10 cities is above the national average, and in the rest of the country it is below the national average.

The most recent immigrants have the lowest participation rate in Vancouver, and the highest rate outside the metropolitan centres and urban areas. Thus, the behaviour of the most recent immigrants is closest to that of the Canadian-born outside the 13 urban centres. In the rest of Canada, the gap in labour force participation is very small for men, and there appears to be virtually no adjustment period. For women, too, there is but a small gap in the rate of labour force participation.

This suggests that immigrants who live outside the 13 urban centres have immigrated because there were jobs for them in those locations. Immigrants who do not have jobs tend to go to the urban centres, especially the three largest cities. Vancouver offered the greatest challenge for recent immigrants looking for work, in comparison to the Canadian-born.

Figure G.5: Labour force participation rates, persons aged 15 to 64, by gender, Canada and five areas, 1996

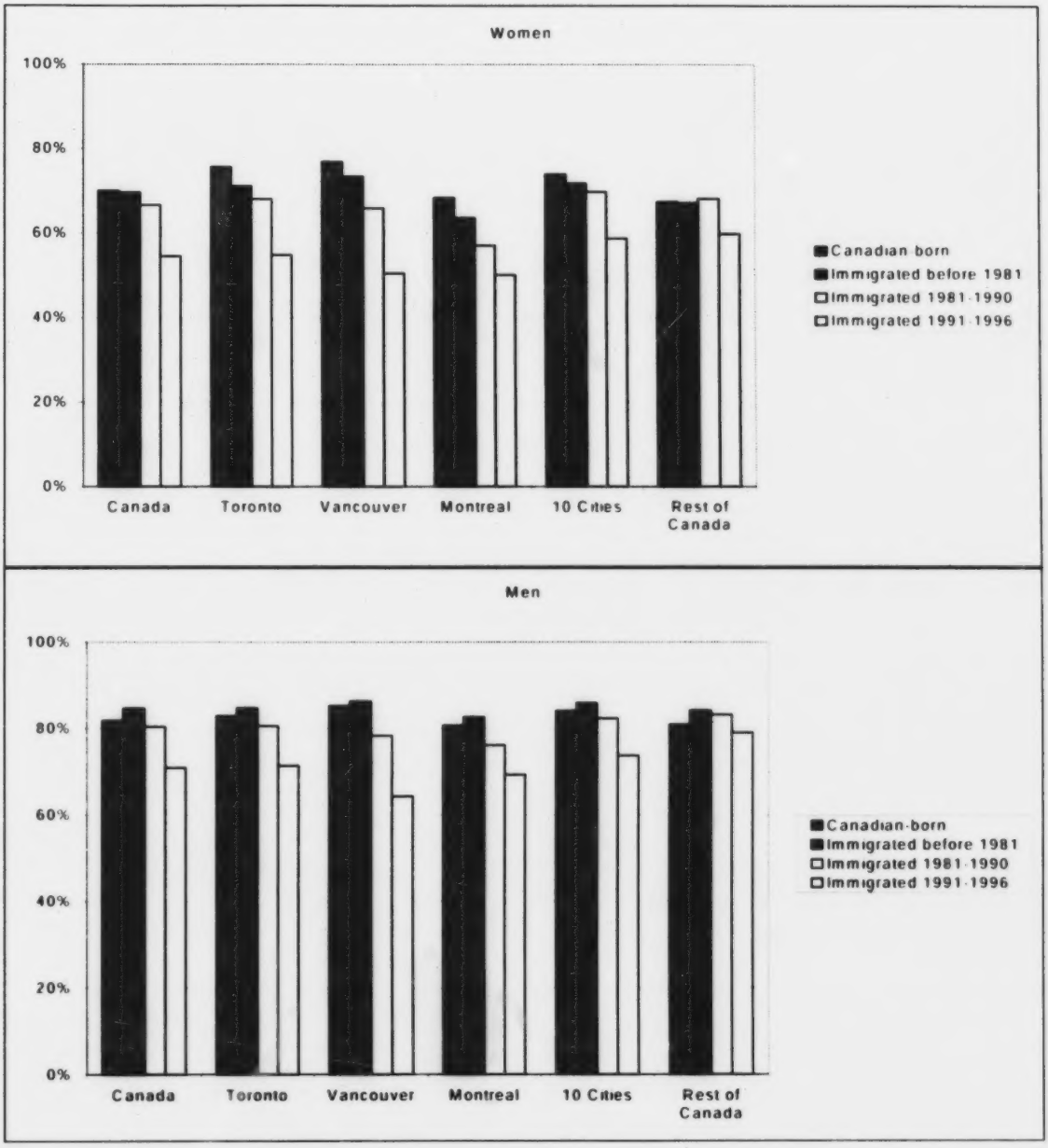
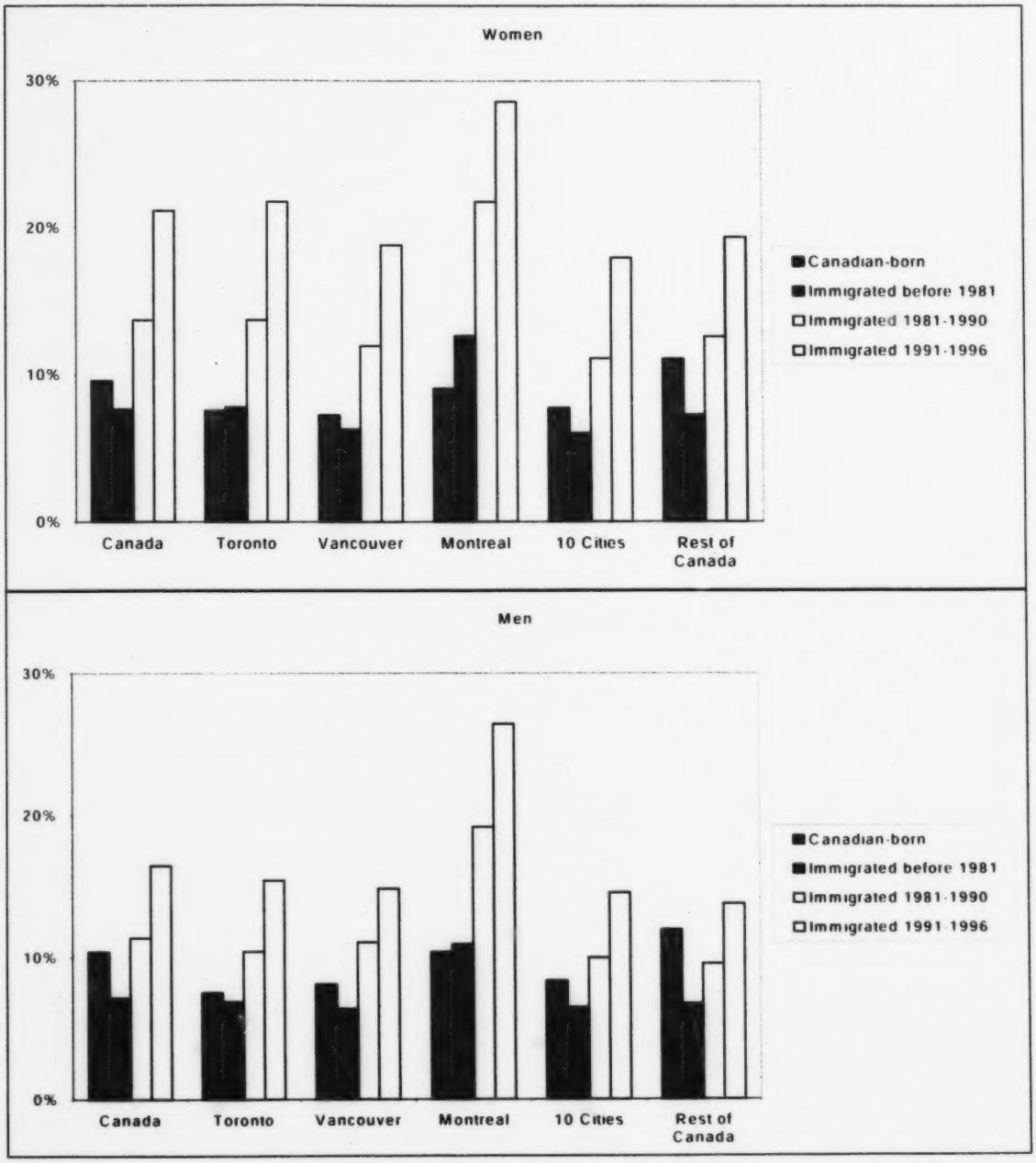


Table G.7: Unemployment rates, persons aged 15 to 64, by gender, Canada and five areas, 1996

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Women						
Canadian-born	10%	8%	7%	9%	8%	11%
Immigrated before 1981	8%	8%	6%	13%	6%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	14%	12%	22%	11%	13%
Immigrated 1991-1996	21%	22%	19%	29%	18%	19%
Men						
Canadian-born	10%	8%	8%	10%	8%	12%
Immigrated before 1981	7%	7%	6%	11%	6%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	11%	10%	11%	19%	10%	10%
Immigrated 1991-1996	16%	15%	15%	26%	15%	14%

Unemployment rates of recent immigrants in four of the five geographic areas are close to the national average for this group. Recent immigrants, whether they landed in the 1980s or the 1990s, are more likely to experience unemployment in Montreal than in the other areas.

Figure G.6: Unemployment rates, persons aged 15 to 64, by gender, Canada and five areas, 1996



Relative income level of recent immigrants varies among five areas

This section focuses on the adequacy of income. Average income is defined as income of all persons including persons who report no income. The proportion of persons without income varies between the four groups and also, but not to the same extent, between the five geographic areas. In Canada as a whole, for instance, women without income account for 10 per cent of the Canadian-born, 14 per cent of immigrants who landed during 1981-1990, and 20 per cent of those who landed during 1991-1996. Among the five geographic areas, the shares vary from 8 to 11 per cent for the Canadian-born, from 12 to 17 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s, and from 18 to 21 per cent for women who immigrated during the 1990s. The differences between the Canadian-born and the three groups of immigrants are similar in all five areas.

Thus, the higher incidence of zero income among recently immigrated women contributes to the differences in average income between the four groups in Canada and in the five areas, but it does not contribute significantly to differences in income levels of women among the five areas. The same argument applies to men. The share of men without income is about one-half as large as for women for each of the groups identified in Table G8.

Table G.8: Average income, Canada and five areas, 1995

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Women						
Canadian-born	$17,400	$23,600	$21,800	$17,900	$19,100	$15,200
Immigrated before 1981	$20,100	$22,200	$21,700	$17,800	$20,300	$17,900
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	$14,300	$15,400	$14,700	$11,100	$14,200	$13,700
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	$9,800	$10,000	$9,900	$8,600	$9,600	$10,300
Men						
Canadian-born	$29,800	$37,300	$34,700	$29,600	$32,100	$27,300
Immigrated before 1981	$35,600	$37,000	$36,300	$31,900	$37,000	$34,500
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	$23,700	$24,400	$22,600	$18,800	$23,900	$26,900
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	$17,100	$17,300	$15,900	$14,300	$17,300	$21,700

Average income of men and women varies considerably between different parts of the country. For the Canadian-born, the highest income is found in Toronto, followed by Vancouver. Outside the 13 urban areas average income is below the national average.

Income of recent immigrants shows similar geographic differences with one exception. Outside the 13 urban centres, the income of recently immigrated men is the highest among all five areas.

Relative to the income of the Canadian-born, the income of recent immigrants is highest outside the three metropolitan centres. In the rest of Canada, recently immigrated men and women have relatively high incomes, and they appear to catch up quickly. That recent immigrants live in cities where incomes are higher plays a role, but their good education and high labour market participation also contributes to this outcome.

Table G.9: Average income as a percentage of average income of the Canadian-born, Canada and five areas, 1995

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Women						
Canadian-born	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Immigrated before 1981	116%	94%	100%	99%	106%	118%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	82%	65%	67%	62%	74%	90%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	56%	42%	45%	48%	50%	68%
Men						
Canadian-born	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Immigrated before 1981	119%	99%	105%	108%	115%	126%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	80%	65%	65%	64%	74%	99%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	57%	46%	46%	48%	54%	79%

Low incidence of low income outside 13 urban centres

Table G.10 and Figure G.7 correspond to Tables E.7. and E.8 and Figure E.1. The concept and measurement of median income are explained in the text box to Figure E1.

As indicated earlier, no Canada-wide measure was used for median income of families and unattached individuals. Rather, median income is given for each CMA and, outside CMAs, by province or territory. Median income of families with income is: $56,937 for Toronto, $54,533 for Vancouver, $46,122 for Montreal, between $47,208 (Saskatoon) and $58,720 (Ottawa) for the ten cities, and between $37,768 (Newfoundland) and $60,118 (Oshawa) for the rest of Canada. Median income of unattached individuals is $22,753 for Toronto, $20,305 for Vancouver, $15,947 for Montreal, between $15,868 (Saskatoon) and $22,338 (Ottawa) for the 10 cities, and between $13,352 (Sherbrooke) and $28,217 (Northwest Territories) for the rest of Canada.

Table G.10: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median and below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Canada and five areas, 1995

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Income below the median						
Canadian-born	47%	40%	42%	44%	45%	50%
Immigrated before 1981	47%	44%	43%	48%	46%	52%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	58%	58%	57%	66%	59%	54%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	74%	74%	73%	76%	74%	66%
Income below one-half of the median						
Canadian-born	17%	14%	16%	17%	16%	19%
Immigrated before 1981	16%	15%	14%	17%	15%	17%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	25%	25%	25%	33%	25%	22%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	39%	39%	40%	44%	38%	30%

The proportion of recent immigrants with income below the median is close to the national average in Toronto, Vancouver and in the 10 cities. By contrast, it is markedly higher in Montreal, and lower outside the 13 urban centres. As regards the Canadian-born, the largest proportion is found outside the urban centres. With respect to this measure of income distribution as well as labour market participation and unemployment, the relative position of recent immigrants is most favourable in the rest of Canada.

Figure G.7: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Canada and five areas, 1995

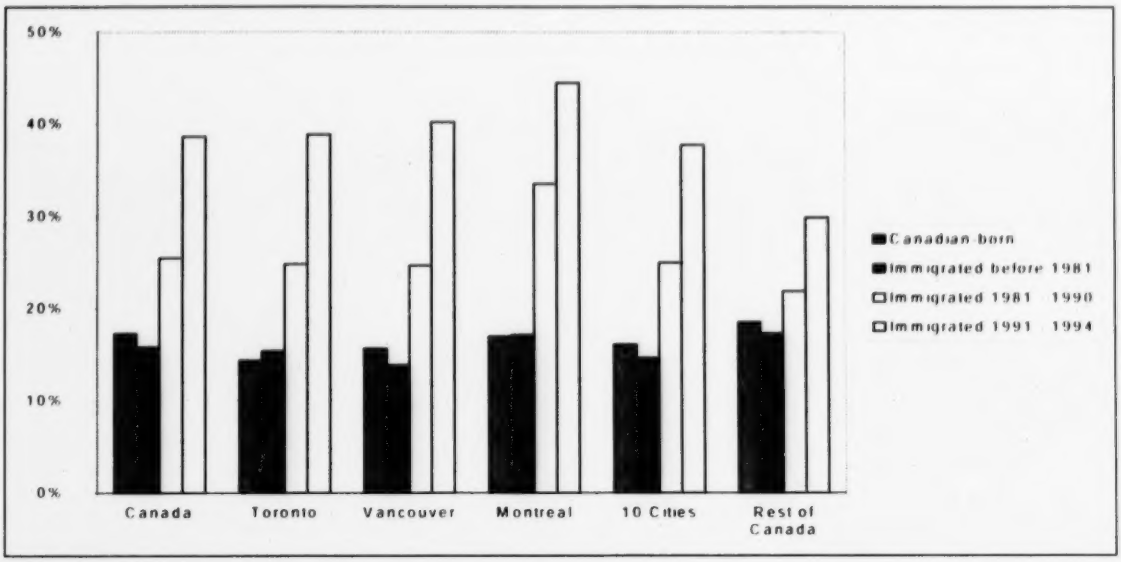


Table G.11: Households with more than one person per room, as a percentage of all households, Canada and five areas, 1996

	Canada	Toronto	Vancouver	Montreal	10 Cities	Rest of Canada
Canadian-born	4%	4%	6%	3%	3%	4%
Earlier immigrants	4%	6%	7%	4%	3%	3%
Recent immigrants	27%	34%	28%	25%	23%	15%
1980s immigrants	*19%*	*24%*	*21%*	*18%*	*16%*	*11%*
1990s immigrants with others	*31%*	*39%*	*32%*	*28%*	*26%*	*17%*
1990s immigrants only	*39%*	*46%*	*35%*	*34%*	*36%*	*28%*

The incidence of crowded housing among recent immigrants, which is many times higher than among the Canadian-born, is highest in Toronto, and lowest outside the 13 urban centres. By and large, the same pattern is found for various sizes of households (not shown).